



Lord Mahavir

JVB International Reflections..



Acharya Mahashraman

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JVB Orlando

Samani Madhur Pragya

Samani Vikas Pragya

www.jainvishwabharati.org

JVB New Jersey

Samani Bhavit Pragya

Samani Sangha Pragya

www.jvbnewjersey.org

JVB Houston

Samani Parimal Pragya

Samani Maryada Pragya

www.jvbhouston.org

Miami, FIU

Samani Shukla Pragya

Samani Rohit Pragya

www.jaineducation.org

ARHAM

JAIN VISHWA BHARTI awarded by JAINA



With the inspiration from Ganadhipati Acharya Shri Tulsi (the 9th Spiritual supreme of Jain Shwetamber Terapanth Sangh) and Acharya Shri Mahapragya (the 10th supreme head), Jain Vishwa Bharti (JVB) was established in the year 1971 at Ladnun in the Nagaur District of Rajasthan, India.

In addition to being a center of excellence in the field of Jain studies and Prakrit language, this institute has also become an international center of learning on Ahimsa (Non-Violence), Jeevan Vigyan (Science of Living) and Preksha Dhyan (Preksha Meditation).

The main aim of this institute is the upliftment of socio-spiritual Values. Jain Vishwa Bharti institute is committed to provide highest quality of educational services to the utmost satisfaction of the students and give them an opportunity to cultivate an integrated personality backed by spiritual and moral values. The practice of pragmatic principles such as anekant, non-violence, tolerance, and peaceful co-existence are the ideals of this institute.

This year JVBI is celebrating its 25 years of spreading value education successfully in India and Overseas. JVBI received "Outstanding Services & Education" award from JAINA convention held in Atlanta during July 2015.

JVB Institute continuously strive hard to achieve excellence training, extension and experimentation in various branches of learning, compatible to the mission of the institute.

To learn more about JVBI, please visit: <http://www.jvbi.ac.in/>

Highlights of this issue:

JVB Award & 25 Year Anniversary



News from JVB Orlando Center



News from JVB New Jersey Center



News from JVB Houston Center



Miami: Florida International University

News from JVB Orlando Center

Jain Vishwa Bharati Orlando center is thriving with the blessings of his holiness Acharya Shree Mahashramanji. With the inspiration, motivation and hard work of Samaniji there is a rise in spiritual activities.

One day Preksha Dhyana Camp Observed with Vow of Silence August 15, 2015:

The first session was started with Preksha Dhyana Song followed by taking the pledge of Upsampadha and Vow of silence. Later on participants practiced Yogik kriya and Pranayam under the guidance of Samaniji. In this session, the Samaniji spoke on 'Why Meditate?' (Part-1) and Kayotsarg. In the second session, a lecture was delivered on 'Why Meditate?' (Part -2) followed by the practice of recitation and perception of mantra, to realize the truth "soul and body are two". (Bhedvigyan). In the concluding session participants shared their experiences. They suggested having such camps often during the year.



Welcome of Respected Samani Madhur Pragyaaji September 10, 2015: On the occasion of welcoming Samani Madhur Pragyaaji, founder of JVB Orlando, the women wing of JVB presented a melodious welcome song. Ashok shah, the president of JVB expressed his happiness by having the presence of Samaniji after a very long time. He, on behalf of whole JVB Samaj paid gratitude towards H.H. Acharyashree for sending the honorable Samaniji to JVB Orlando. Samani Vikas Pragyaaji also did a warm welcome of the respected Samaniji.



Paryushan Mahaparva: The spiritual festival of Paryushan was celebrated in the auspicious presence of Samani Madhur Pragya and Samani Vikas Pragya. During the Paryushan, programs were organized in the morning as well as evening. Morning session started with recitation of Bhaktamar Stotra and practice of Meditation was followed by lectures on Uttaradhyayan Sutra. A series of lectures on Shada-vashyak was conducted in evenings. Many people did Paushad Sadhana as Ashta prahari Paushadh - 8 people, six prahari- 7 people, four prahari- 3 people.

Samvatsari Pratikraman



Tapasvis



Tap Bahuman: Many people celebrated the great festival Paryushan through fasting. Manoj Bhai, Pooja, and Riya, did fasting for 8 days, Naina Mehta and Beena ben did tapasya for nine and ten days respectively. Samani Madhur Pragyaaji appreciated all the tapasvis in her speech and she said "To sing a song in the glory of tap is easier whereas observing fast is a tough task. One, who is able to do tapasya, is able to conquer his senses and mind. She further said if one does fasting while practicing meditation and studying the self with awareness, then it is called real or actual tapasya." Mr. Ashok Shah in his speech congratulated all tapasvis. The program was convened by Mehul Shah.

Samaniji's Traveling - May to September:

Jacksonville, Milwaukee, New Jersey, Los Angeles., Atlanta, Vero Beach and Tampa, Fl.

Samaniji conducted Preksha Meditation camps, workshops, lectures, open discussion sessions and many more programs during their visit to the above places.

News from JVB New Jersey Center

Akshay Tritiya was celebrated on May 2 under the guidance of Samani Shukla Pragyaji & Samani Unnat Pragyaji. The program comprised of Bhagwan Rishabh

Jaap, Bhajan competition, release of the annual Gyanshala magazine, and Samanijis' Pravachan. Samani Unnat Pragyaji spoke on the various intricacies of 'Man' - based on a poem of the same name by Acharyashri Mahapragya. Samani Shukla Pragyaji prescribed capsules for a happy life.



Santhara was taken and fulfilled by Dr. Elaben Sheth on the morning of May 24 under the auspicious guidance and presence of Samani Vikas Pragyaji & Samani Ratan Pragyaji in Edison.

Workshop on 'Roots of Violence' was organized on May 31, where Samani Vikas Pragyaji & Samani Ratan Pragyaji spoke on the types and causes of violence and discussed measures to reduce it in our daily lives. The workshop was very well received by all present.

Gyanshala Annual Day was celebrated on June 7 under the guidance of Samani Vikas Pragyaji & Samani Ratan Pragyaji. Children presented their annual projects and raised funds for Nepal earthquake victims. Samanijis blessed the children and parents and inspired them to leave their mark on society.



Annual Spiritual Family Camp was conducted from June 12-14 at Poconos, PA, under the guidance of Samani Parimal Pragyaji, Samani Vikas Pragyaji, Samani Ratan Pragyaji, & Samani Maryada Pragyaji. More than 100 adults and children attended prayer, yoga, meditation, lecture, and interactive sessions on the theme - Understanding Joy & Sorrow. The camp was very well received by all participants.



International Yoga Day was celebrated on June 21 under the guidance of Samani Parimal Pragyaji & Samani Maryada Pragyaji, where Samanijis led participants through the practical aspects of 'how to boost pran'. This deep dive session was well appreciated.

Terapanth Sthapana Diwas was celebrated on July 31 under the guidance of Samani Bhavit Pragyaji & Samani Sangh Pragyaji. The session comprised of Bhikshu Jaap, Bhakti Geet and Samanijis' lecture on the life of Acharya Bhikshu.

Homage to Abdul Kalam was offered on Aug 1 by the JVBNA family under the guidance of Samani Bhavit Pragyaji & Samani Sangh Pragyaji. Samanijis also participated in the Lead India 2020 Interfaith conference to pay tribute to Dr. Kalam in August. Samanijis spoke on the simple living-high thinking life of Dr. Kalam and his close relationship with Acharyashri Tulsi, Acharyashri Mahapragya and Acharyashri Mahashraman.

Paryushan Mahaparva and Samvatsari were celebrated from Sep 10-17 under the guidance of Samani Bhavit Pragyaji & Samani Sangh Pragyaji. Daily Pratikraman sessions were followed by Samaniji's Priavachan on how to conquer pramad, krodh, maan, maya, lobh, asakti, and the importance of namokar mantra and kshamapana. The sessions were well attended and well received by all. Many members of the community did tapasya including 9 upavas by Mahipal ji & Prabha ji Singhvi, 8 upavas by Namrata ji Shah, many telas, belas, and athais of ekasans.



International Peace Day was celebrated on Sep 21 under the guidance of Samani Bhavit Pragyaji & Samani Sangh Pragyaji. The session comprised of Bhakti & Maitri Geet.

Upcoming Programs - Oct 3 - Kshamapana Diwas & Bhikshu Jaap, Oct 4 - Gyanshala Session Begins, Nov 14 - Diwali Milan, Nov 21-Dec 20 - Gyatadharma Katha Agam Workshop.

News from JVB Houston Center

JVB Houston's 2nd Annual Gyanshala Day

To mark the end of another great learning year of JVB Gyanshala 2014-15 and to reward all the Gyanshala kids of ages 4-14 for their learning & commitment, Annual Gyanshala day was celebrated with full excitement and enthusiasm by the kids & parents. Under auspicious presence and guidance of Samani Parimal Pragyaaji and Samani Maryada Pragyaaji, all the Gyanshala kids were duly recognized & rewarded for end of the year exams for Hindi as well as Jainism classes, full attendance and for participation in various Cultural activities.



Special Saptahik Lecture Series in Dallas, Texas

Samanijs conducted various meditation sessions and a special week long informative lecture series in Dallas. A memorable workshop for senior citizens on "My life is my Message" and for Pathshala kids on "Uniqueness of Jainism" were the focal points of this trip.



Bhaktamar Workshop (Part-II)

A continuing Bhaktamar stotra workshop Part- 2, one of the most famous gem of Jain devotional literature was held in the month of June by Samanijs. About 50 devotees, young as well as old took the labh of this special session.

Paryushan Mahaparv Celebrations

Under Samanijs guidance and motivation, once again, the entire JVB community became spellbound in an atmosphere of felicity and Tapasya during Paryushan which continued till Samvatsari day. Evening Pratikraman for young and old, Agam Discourses in the morning on the life story of Bhagwat Mahavir and evening discourses on the detailed meaning of "Uvsaggaharam Stotra" marked the daily ritual for 8 days. This year, under Samanijs guidance, a special spiritual practice was followed on each day such as continuous 12 hour chanting of Namaskar Mahamantra, 108 hours of Maun (Silence), Samayika, Swadhyay (Scriptural reading) and Contemplation on Amity & more. Besides dedicated Patrons of JVB's Sachin Jain, Jigisha Doshi, Renu Shah and Khushboo Jain's Tela Tapasya, two gems of JVB Gyanshala, 14 year old Udai Jain's Tela and 7 year old Tanvi Jain's Upwaas were the highlights of Paryushan Celebrations. This event was covered in the 2nd Front page news of "Voice of Asia" newspaper.

Pratikraman



Kshamapana Divas & Acharya Shree Bhikshu "Teras" Remembrance

To culminate Paryushan and Das lakshan parv and to honor Acharya Shree Bhikshu's Teras, JVB Houston celebrated Kshamapana Divas with full fervor and Samanijs enriched the audience with her powerful discourse on Importance of Forgiveness to lead a Happy and Stress free life. Audience were given insights about Acharya Bhikshu's life through special bhajans.

Other Activities

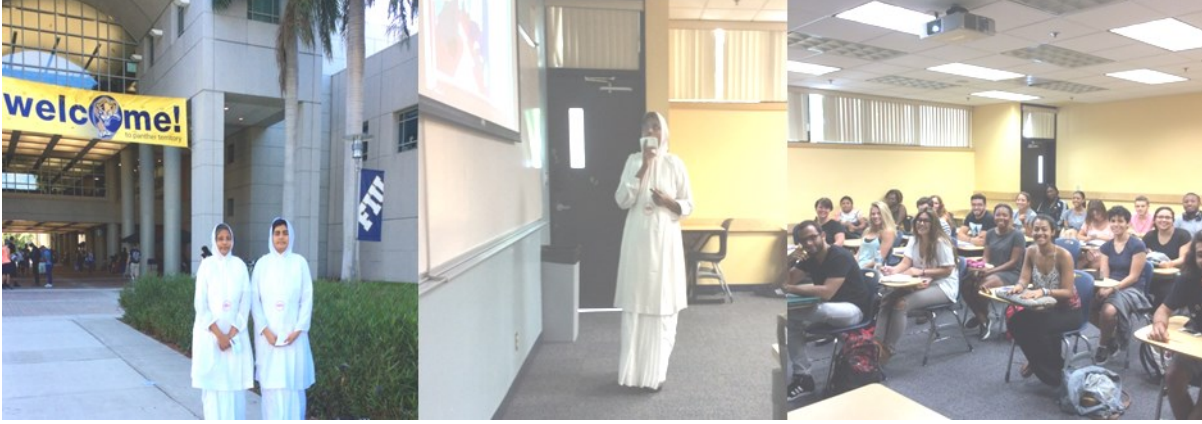
These included special one day **Adhyatmik Sadhana Shivir for ladies**, **Monthly Meditation workshop**, 30+ Houstonians meditate in a calm, relaxing and blissful environment. **iChoose** - an informative & interactive networking sessions, created for the young professionals and conducted by the renowned & experienced professionals & Entrepreneurs. For the workshop conducted in August, topic was on "How to build a High Performance Team" by Mr. Brij Kathuria was well attended by a group young professionals. Samanijs also participated in **JAINA** in Atlanta during August and travelled to Baltimore & New Jersey to conduct camp and spiritual activities.

For more Information about our weekly schedule, past & upcoming events visit www.jvbhouston.org or call @ 281-596-9642.

News from Miami

(SAMANIJIS' TEACHING AT FIU, MIAMI)

Samani Shukla Pragma and Samani Rohit Pragma have arrived to Miami on 19th August. With the beginning of the fall semester they have started teaching courses like Meditation and Spiritual Development, Sanskrit Language Level -1 and Level -3 etc. at Florida International University. Also they have started activities in Jain club as well as Preksha Meditation club in FIU campus.



Paryushan Mahaparva

Shravakas got benefitted by the Paryushan Pratikraman all eight days conducted by Samanijis. During this period Samanijis inspired people to do self - introspection and purify the soul. They said Forgiveness is the stepping stone to evolve spiritually and lead healthy life.

Spiritual discourses

Samanijis have conducted **spiritual discourses** and **community programs**. They delivered lectures on "Let's learn to protect the self", "The Way to Grow" etc. They said that moving from comfort zone to the discomfort zone seems difficult but that's the way we embrace our bright future. The way to master discomfort is to do it comfortably, take small steps but consistently. Programs were followed by Bhajans, Mantras, Q & A and followed by good discussion.

Guest lecture at UNT & FIU

Samanijis have delivered online guest lectures at the University of North Texas and FIU. The topics covered in the lectures were 'Intro to Jainism' and 'Anekantvad and Intellectual Ahimsa'. With many curiosities and finding solutions, students admitted that Jain philosophy is very scientific, logical and practical.

