



April 2011

669 South Peachtree Street • Norcross, Georgia 30071-2438 • 770-807-6187
www.jsgatemple.org

**EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
2011**

PRESIDENT

Jayesh Gandhi
678-735-9880
Jayesh.a.gandhi@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Deepak Shah
770-552-2507
deepak.k.shah@gmail.com

TREASURER

Sameer P. Hah
313-215-5158
Samshah00@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Anil Shah
770-232-1030
anilmadhu@usa.net

YOUTH CO-ORD

Meeta Parikh
770-971-0925
meetaparikh@gmail.com

EC MEMBERS

Kiran Shah
770-381-5298
S_kiran@bellsouth.net

Sameer D. Shah
770-870-0500
samshah1@yahoo.com

Non-Profit Tax ID Code:
501(C) (3) E1#58-
1966847

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jai Jinendra.

First of all, I would like to thank you for giving me and my executive committee an opportunity to serve our society for this year.

Two JSGA families: Gulabbhai Kothari and Kalaben Shah, spent few months in Palitana in late 2010 & beginning of 2011. They did "Navanu (99)" jattras and updhan tap. We are very proud of their "aaradhna" and quest for knowledge.

Winter weather was very rough in Atlanta this year. I am very proud and extremely thankful to our dedicated members who braved the treacherous icy conditions, overcame all road obstacles, and did daily pooja & aarti. This is a year round service with total dedication. This level of commitment, dedication, and worship from the heart speaks volume for our volunteers. Thank you for your exemplary service.

Our first general body meeting on March 13th was well attended. We have received the approvals of our recurring expenditure budget and capital expenditure budget. We also discussed various topics of importance to JSGA: energy efficiency, security, food expenses, adjacent properties, pathshala, scholars visits, other improvements.

With your support and participation we will work on community initiatives (youth involvement, health, knowledge) and improving our facilities (landscape, security). Spring is here and we need to spring into action. I need to hear from all of you and get involved in our beloved derasar. This is OUR derasar. This is OUR community center. This is the foundation of OUR future generation. Please get involved in the volunteering teams as outlined in this newsletter.

Me and my Executive Committee members look forward to work with you this year.

Thank you.

Jayesh A. Gandhi

President
2011 Executive Committee
Jain Society of Greater Atlanta

2011 Recurring Expense Budget and Capital Expenditures

Annual General Body meeting was held to discuss 2011 recurring expense budget and capital expenditures on March 13, 2011. The JSGA recurring expense budget was approved for \$ 134,500 and the Capital Expenditures of \$ 62,500.

Following are financial summaries for the year 2010.

Total Cash Received in year 2010 (cash plus pledged)	\$ 231,137
Membership Dues	\$ 2,716
Interest	\$ 3,387
Bhandar	\$ 25,936
Donations	\$ 38,772
Jeevdaya	\$ 1,151
Lunch and Dinner Sponsors	\$ 5,726
Ghee Boli	\$ 52,975
Pooja	\$ 26,544
General Donation	\$ 25,703
Pratishtha	\$ 48,227

Total Expenses for 2010 \$ 122,913.

Just a friendly reminder that we have pledges outstanding, with an overdue balance of \$115,770. If there is any question about the amount you owe, please give us a call and we'll be happy to discuss it. If you've already sent your payment, please disregard this reminder. We truly appreciate your continuing support, and we look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Program April 16-17

Mahavir Jayanti will be celebrated on April 16 and 17. The details programs for this event are as follow:

- April 16 2:00 – 5:00 PM Pooja
 6:00 – 7:30 PM Dinner
 7:30 – 8:00 PM Aarti, Mangal Devo
 8:00 – 10:00 PM Entertainment Program
- April 17 10:30 – 11:00 AM Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Program
 11:00 – 12:30 PM Bhaghvan Procession / Dandiya
 12:30 – 1:00 PM Aarti, Mangal Devo
 1:00 PM Lunch

Members can participate in pooja on April 16 for a fixed nakro of \$101. Please register your name with Sampurna Shah at 770-552-2507.

As done in past, if you do not find a parking place, please park your car across the street in the parking lot of Rock Tenn. Please note members cars will be towed away if their car is not properly parked or blocking someone's car. There will not be any exception to this rule. We request all members to comply with this.

In order to ensure that we do not run out of food and at the same time minimize leftover food, we request all members to do RSVP. The e-mail requesting RSVP will be sent out to all members. The main goal of the RSVP is to meet our goal is to feed all members and at the same time avoid wastage. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

JSGA Young Adults and Teenagers Corner

In 2011, the JSGA Executive Committee (EC) is putting renewed focus on the young adult (20-29 years old) and teenage (13-19 years old) members of our samaj. The EC will be working this year to create an environment in JSGA that will appeal to these two groups so that we may get them more involved. These groups represent the future of our community!

In January and February, Meeta Parikh (Youth Secy) and Sameer D. Shah (Member of EC and Youth Committee) hosted two open houses, one for the young adults and one for the teenagers. The purpose of this was to gather ideas from each group on the types of activities and events they would like to participate in during the year. These would be activities that are structured and organized specific to their ages. Each open house resulted in many ideas in three key areas: (a) Religious, (b) Social, and (c) Charity.

In order to break the ice, it was decided to organize a social event for each group. On February 25, the Young Adults group met for a self funded dinner gathering at the Green Sprout restaurant in Atlanta. It was a fun evening (pictured below) with lively conversation about a variety of topics including ideas for events that the young adults wish to have this year within JSGA. The Youth Committee is encouraging all Young Adults to come join us in shaping the future of the JSGA.



On March 26, the Youth Committee organized a self-funded teenagers bowling event in Roswell (photo above). All of the kids (and parents) had a great time bowling and getting to know each other a little better. We are planning a religious event at the temple during the Mahavir Jayanti festivities on April 16-17. The Youth Committee is encouraging all JSGA teens to come join us at future events. For more information on either of these groups, please contact Meeta Parikh (meetaparikh@gmail.com or via cell 404-422-1681) or Sameer D. Shah (samshah1@yahoo.com or via cell 770-722-6284)

Volunteering Teams for 2011 (VTeams)

Giving is at the heart and soul of our religion. Giving your valuable time is very important for health and improvement of our Derasar & Samaj. Please consider to volunteer some time out of your busy week for our beloved derasar. It will go a very long way for our samaj. Enjoyment and satisfaction of this volunteering service is immense. EC has formed the following VTeams (Volunteering Teams). Please come forward and join JSGA VTeams by contacting Jayesh Gandhi at 678-735-9880.

We need help in the following areas.

The following are Volunteering Teams (VTeams) with the defined charter.

Scholars Visitation and Arrangements	Education	Religious	Community Outreach	Cultural Events and Entertainment
Facility Management	Pathshala Operations	Kitchen Management	Housekeeping	Membership/ DAD/ AR
Audio / Video *NEW*	Library (to work with Education Committee) *NEW*	Internal Audit *NEW*	IT/ Creative Content *NEW*	Health *NEW*

Out of Town Sangh Visits

We have opportunity to host several Jain sangh from USA to visit our temple. The last sangh to visit our temple was from Panama City, FL in 2010. We also made similar visit to two places i.e. Tampa and Orlando in 2009. This year we are pleased to announce that two Jain Sanghs will be visiting our temple. We are also planning to make visit to other places this year and the details will be announced when finalized.

Jain Sangh from Richmond, VA April 9 Saturday Morning

Jain Sangh from Richmond, VA will be visiting our temple on Saturday April 9th morning and performing snatra pooja. All members are requested to welcome them. Also On April 9th there will be a lecture by Swami Shrut Pragyaaji at 11:00 AM and this will be followed by aarti, mangal devo and lunch.

Jain Sangh from Detroit, MI – August 13 Saturday Morning

Jain Sangh from Detroit will be visiting our temple on Saturday August 13th. The details of their visit will be announced later on. Please mark this date in your calendar.

Membership Update

Our society is growing. We welcome the following members to our society who have joined in 2010 and 2011 to date.

Rajiv and Krupali Shah (2010 Annual, 2011 Life)

Ketan and Falguni Shah (2011 Annual)

Milan and Shraddha Doshi (Annual)

Membership Update cont.

Manish and Rina Shah (Annual)
Rakesh and Neha Kothari (Annual)
Anurag and Nidhi Jain (Annual)
Ajay and Kinjal Shah (Annual)
Sarvesh and Archana Jain (Annual)
Prasanna and Chetna Jain (Annual)
Hemal and Hemali Shah (2010 Life)
Manan Shah (Annual)
Achint Choksy (Annual)
Anuj and Ritu Jain (2010 Life)

Please note all annual members are requested to pay their dues for the year 2011. The annual dues are \$101 for family, \$51 for single. All annual members are encouraged to become life members by paying \$501. For further information on membership dues, please contact Anil Shah at 770-232-1030.

Membership Data Update – On JSGA Website

This is to remind all members that it is responsibility of members to update their membership data and these may be changed by members only on our website. We will not update the membership data. If you have moved recently or not sure whether your data is correct, please visit our website www.jsgatemple.org and read the instruction for obtaining password and changing the data on the website. For further information on updating your membership data on website, please contact Anil Shah at 770-232-1030.

Temple and Building Update

Executive Committee (EC) is very happy to inform our members that all the required work to be done under the original contract for our temple awarded to Zaveri Enterprise is now being completed and paid for (Except replacement of the front entrance door to the temple). Our society has received an approval from the fire marshall to occupy the building. During the construction process we'd made few changes from the original design submitted to the city of Norcross. Architectural Committee of the City Of Norcross has evaluated these changes. We now have received permanent certificate of occupancy from the City of Norcross. We would like to thank Shirishbhai for conscientiously working with the fire marshall and the city of Norcross to get the final CO.

We've created additional 15 gravel parking spots on our property. There was a hearing at the city hall & city has given us a permission to use these parking spots 10 times a year.

Few years ago we'd passed a budget for the entrance gate and a sign at the front of our property. We need city's approval to start this work. Since we're in the historic district of the City of Norcross we're having trouble getting approval from the city for this project. We'll keep working with the City and see how we can accomplish this and have a gate and a sign at the front entrance of our property.

As we all know that work inside & around the temple never ends. It's an ongoing project to keep our temple attractive, beautiful & clean. In few months we'll be installing two marble elephants at the front entrance and name plaques under each tirthankaras, gods and goddesses. EC will be taking few small projects on hand to keep our temple more cleaner, efficient and easier for our members to take care of the day to day items. We're planning to invite Champalalji (Who made all our Pratimajis) to repaint and seal all the needed pratimajis.

Rules to Follow When Entering Ghabhara

We request all our members to pay attention to the following items when entering the Gabhara area:

- 1) Maintain complete silence when they enter the Gabhara area
- 2) Be gentle with the Pratimajis during Prakshal, cleaning, drying and doing Pooja
- 3) Do not use items like kesar in Pooja which stains the marble of the pratimaji. Please use only Chandan on the Pratimaji
- 4) Do not stick anything on Pratimaji using favicol or any other material which can hurt the pratimajis
- 5) Do not enter inside the Gabhara area without appropriate clothes. Please pay attention for the small kids also. Do not allow them to enter the Gabhara area without needed appropriate clothing.

Property Purchase Update

Our society is growing and based on the past growth, our society will need more space to meet our needs. EC discussed with our next door neighbor for the sale of her property and she is asking 600K+ for her property which was appraised around 300K few years ago. Also, property at 781 South Peachtree Street (next to our immediate neighbor's property) is on sale.

Last month in our town hall meeting we discussed about the purchase of this property at 781 South Peachtree Street. EC will carry out proper due diligence and will call a General Body (GB) meeting to discuss & make the final decision on this property.

Food Drive



Jain Society of Greater Atlanta (JSGA)
2011 Mahavir Jayanti Food Drive
Sponsored by
Vijay & Neelima Kothari

Jainism is a peaceful faith that believes in non-violence and self-sacrifices. During the celebrations of Bhagwan Mahavir's birth, a food donation drive is organized at JSGA to help a local charitable organizations – Homeless and Battered Women Shelters.

As an added incentive to JSGA members, Vijay and Neelima Kothari will also contribute \$1 to JSGA for every box and/or canned food donated on behalf of JSGA (1000 cans collected for donation to a local charity, Vijay and Neelima will donate \$1001 to JSGA).

Every box or canned food donated by you not only helps a local charitable organization, it also helps raise funds for JSGA.

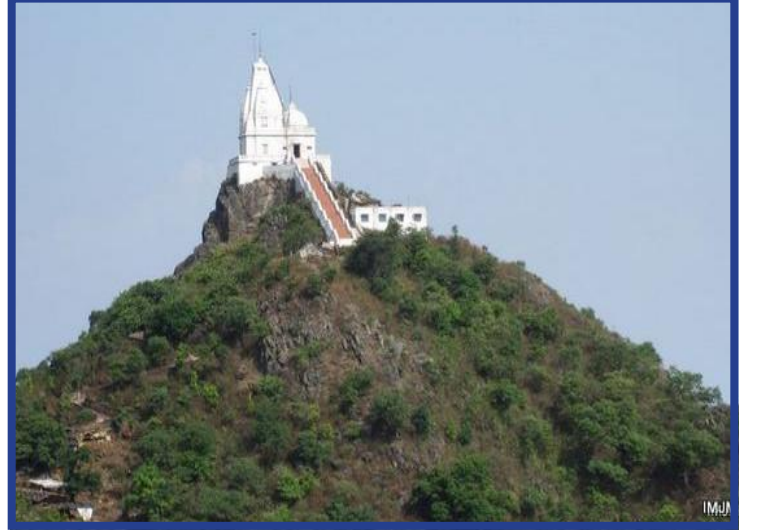
So, you are encouraged to make donations for the sick, poor and needy and participate in the good cause and help both local charitable Organization and JSGA.

Food donations will be collected at the JSGA Center front door on following days:
4/3, 4/10, 4/16 and 4/17

Note – You can also give cash donation as well and we will buy the cans.

IMPORTANT - Only Non-Perishable JAIN food will be collected at JSGA. Strictly No Meat and No potatoes/root vegetables. Non-Jain food is not allowed to be brought at the JSGA Center.

Samet Sikharji Bhavyatra



સંકલન : મનહર પારેખ

લીર્થયાત્રા: અનંત ઉપકારી શ્રી અરિહંત પરમાત્માઓએ વિવેકી અને શાંતિસંપન્ન જ્ઞાવકો માટે ફેરમાવેલા, વર્ષમાં એકામાં એકા એક વખત લી અવશ્ય કરવા યોગ્ય અગીયાર કર્ણવ્યાખ્યાં 'યાત્રા' નામનું એક કર્ણવ્ય પણ બતાવ્યું છે. યાત્રાના ત્રણ પ્રકારો છે : 1) ચૈત્યયાત્રા, 2) રથયાત્રા અને 3) લીર્થયાત્રા.

લીર્થયાત્રાના પ્રત્યાયનું વર્ણન કરતાં જણાવ્યું છે કે :

- 1) લીર્થયાત્રાએ જતાં સાચા શાખીઓ માર્ગમાં યાત્રિકોના ચાલવાથી ઊંડલી રજ-ફૂળ દ્વારા ખોલે કર્મરજથી રહિત બને છે,
- 2) લીર્થયાત્રા માટે વિધિપૂર્વક જામણ કરતા જુઓ ખોલે ભવમાં ભક્તિ નથી અને
- 3) લીર્થયાત્રા માટે સદ્ગુણો વ્યય કરનારા આત્માઓ સંસારમાં રહેવાં સુધી સદ્ગુણો સુંદર સંપદાને પામે છે અને તેના દ્વારા પ્રભુની ઉચ્ચ કોટિની ભક્તિ કરીને મોકો જાય છે.

સ્તીર્થ: જેનાથી સંસાર તરાય તે લીર્થ કહેવાય છે. આ લીર્થના અનેક પ્રકાર છે: નામલીર્થ, સ્થાપનાલીર્થ, જ્ઞાત્યલીર્થ, ભાવલીર્થ, સ્થાયરલીર્થ, જંગમલીર્થ, લોકિકલીર્થ, લોકાચર લીર્થ, વિ. અનુચિંદ સંઘ એ ભાવલીર્થ છે અને તેનો આજ્ઞા કરનારા ભવ્ય જુઓ ભવસાગરને નિવૃત્તિ લાવી જાય છે. તેમને ભવસાગર ફેરી લાવવાનો હોવો નથી.

સંઘપતિ: સાદુ-સાદ્ય-જ્ઞાવક-જ્ઞાવિકાદ્વય અનુચિંદ સંઘને જેન શાસનમાં પરચીસમાં લીર્થકર લુલ્ય ગણવામાં આવેલ છે. આ સંઘનું નેતૃલ્ય સંભાળવું અર્થાત્ આ સંઘના સંઘપતિ શયે તે અસ્પર્ધારણ પુણ્યાનુબંધી પુણ્યો બંધ કરાય છે. સંઘપતિ લીર્થયાત્રાનો અપરંપાર મહિમા સિદ્ધ કરીને સંપતિ દ્વારા સુકલકરણનું સુવિમલ દાણાંત ધરું પાડે છે.

Future Events

April 3	Sun	Mahavir Swami Pooja
April 3, 10, 16, 17	Sun	Food Drive
April 6-12	Wed-Tues	Swami Shrut Pragyaji
April 9	Sat	Jain Sangh from Richmond, VA Visit to our Temple
April 10, 16 and 17	Sun, Sat, Sun	Ayambil Oli
April 16 – 17	Sat- Sun	Mahavir Janma Kalyank Celebration
April 24	Sun	Health Awareness Topic# 1, Dr. Neelima Kothari
May 1	Sun	Mahavir Swami Pooja
May 15	Sun	JSGA Picnic May
May 22	Sun	Monthly Snatra Pooja
June 5	Sun	Mahavir Swami Pooja
June 8	Wed	Tarlaben Doshi
June 19	Sun	Samet Sikharji Bhavyatra
July 1 – 4	Mon- Thur	JAINA Convention in Houston
July 3	Sun	Mahavir Swami Pooja
July 6 – 12	Wed- Tue	Vijay Bhadra Bahuji
July 15 – 21	Fri – Thrs	Dhirubhai Pandit
July 17	Sun	Monthly Snatra Pooja

669 South Peachtree Street • Norcross, Georgia 30071-2438

