



# JAIN CENTER OF GREATER BOSTON

Right Faith, Right Knowledge, Right Conduct

October 2009

www.jcgb.org

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## BOARD

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**Open Position**

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## President's Message ...

Michammi Dukkadam!

On behalf of Executive Committee, we ask for your forgiveness if we have Knowingly or unknowingly hurt you by thoughts, action or words.

Our members celebrated & participated in Paryshana Purve and Das Laxan Maha Purve enthusiastically. Shri Bhadrabahu Vijayji & Shri Manishbhai Modi did an excellent job in enlightening our members. We observed Logassa Puja for the first time in our center's history with great participation

We congratulate all Tapasvi for the extraordinary Tapascharya. JCGB honored them during Paryushana/DasLaxan celebration event. We had successful Asthaprakrari & Dev Shashtra puja program conducted by Pathshala teachers & students. Sidhhachalam Yatra was enjoyed by over 80 members last weekend.

.....(Continued on page 5)

**Closing Date**  
**October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**Details to follow....**

## Mark your Calendar

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Diwali Ladoo offering

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Diwali Snatra Puja

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 New year celebration  
Gautumswami Raas

October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 Gyan Panchami

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Diwali Celebration

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 New Property Closing

## Event Calendar

All the events are at the Jain Center unless otherwise mentioned.

<b>Diwali Ladoo offering</b>	Sunday, October 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 8:00am
<b>Snatra Puja</b>	Sunday, October 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 10:00am
Bestu Varsh and Guatumswami Raas Vanchan	Monday, October 19 <sup>th</sup> 2009 7:30am
<b>Diwali Celebration</b>	Sunday, October 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 @Johnson Middle School, Walpole
<b>New Property Closing</b>	October 29 <sup>th</sup> 2009
<b>Closing Celebration</b>	TBA
<b>Thanksgiving Day Jap</b>	November 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2009

### Monthly Puja/Bhavna

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>Pathshala at Bird School, Walpole</b> Contact Person: Mamta Mehta, Pathshala Director 508-543-5131
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>Bhavna</b> Contact Person Nisha Gosalia 508-473-1072 Mita Shah 781-449-3297
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>Snatra Puja</b> Contact Person Sudhirbhai Shah 508-660-9683
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>Dev Shastra Guru Puja</b> Contact Person: Raniben Jain: 781-278-9851

### Youth Events

Please contact Youth Representative Naman Jain  
(namanjain@gmail.com)

## Jain Panchang

As you know pancham (5<sup>th</sup>), Aatham (8<sup>th</sup>), Choudas (14<sup>th</sup>), Aamas etc are auspicious tithis in Jain Panchang. People try to observe tapsya according to our capacity. There are times we don't have Panchang available to follow this tithis. Our senior member Dineshbhai Dalal has graciously agreed to provide us Panchang tithis for upcoming months.

### Month: Aaso (last month of Lunar calendar):

Vad Aatham (8): October 11, Sunday  
Vad Choudas (14): October 17, Saturday - Diwali Day, Mahaveerswami Nirvan Kalyanak

### **New Year:**

**Vikram Samvat 2066 &  
Veer Samvat 2536**

### Month: Kartak (1<sup>st</sup> month of Lunar calendar)

Sud Ekam (1) : October 19, Monday - New year Day, Gautamswami Kevalgnan,

Sud Pancham (5): October 23, Friday - Gnan Pancham

Sud Aatham (8): October 26, Monday  
Sud Choudas (14): November 1, Sunday - Choumasi Choudas

Vad Aatham (8): November 10, Tuesday  
Vad Dasam (10): November 11, Wednesday - Mahaveerswami Diksha Kalyanak

Vad Choudas (14): November 15, Sunday

### Month: Magsar (2<sup>nd</sup> month of lunar calendar)

Sud Pancham (5): November 22, Sunday  
Sud Aatham (8) : November 25, Wednesday  
Sud Choudas (14): December 1, Tuesday

**We thank Dineshbhai for his valuable contribution.**

## Diwali Celebration October 25<sup>th</sup> 2009

We will be celebrating Diwali program on October 25<sup>th</sup> 2009. As done in the past, Pathshala students will be presenting the program. This is also our Annual General Body Meeting. Come and join us for the exciting evening.

The dinner will be sponsored by North zone. If you can help, please contact the coordinators

Pratimaben Khasgiwala. (978)470-0255  
Shruti Narenbhai Mehta (781)449-4582  
Ashaben Aroonbhai Shah (781)322-0215

Please make a note of new location of the program.

**Date: Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Time: 3pm**

**Location: Johnson Middle School  
111 Robbins Road  
Walpole, MA 02081  
<http://walpole.k12.ma.us/jms/>**

### *Volunteer Opportunity*

To run such a large organization it requires work of many volunteer hours. Through various program at the Jain Center, you can imagine how many hours EC members are donating so the community members can enjoy the celebration.

We would like to recognize **Ranjanben Shah** as volunteer of the month. During Paryushana, Ranjanben made more than 20 snack packs for the college students who came for the Pratikraman to be used for their parna. This was a unique idea and we want to thank Ranjanben for their thoughtful work.

We can use more help. If you can help us in any way, please contact EC members. Especially if you can help at upcoming Diwali program in serving dinner or in set up and clean up the dinner area, we would love to hear from you. Please contact EC member if you can spare an hour or two to help.

## Diwali and New Year day

JCGB celebrates Mahavir Swami Nirvana day (Diwali day) and Newyear with full day puja activities on Sunday and New year opening of temple with reading of Mangalik (auspicious and sacred) Sutras on Monday. This is the First Day of Mahavir Samvat 2536 and Vikram Samvat 2066. It was around this time 527 B.C., Lord Mahavir achieved Nirvana and Guru Gautam Swami became omniscient.

### **Mahavir Swami Nirvana Day Ladoo Offering and Snatra Puja Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

8.00am - 10.00am Abhishek, Devshatra Puja and Nirvan Ladu offering  
Followed by Refreshment.

10.00am - 12.00am Snatrapuja.  
Followed by lunch. As usual Newyear/Diwali puja is sponsored by Road Island group. (Look for RSVP announcement).

### **New Year Day Reading of Auspicious Scriptures Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Begin your new year by reading Mangalik (auspicious and sacred) Sutras at the JCGB Temple. This is the First Day of Mahavir Samvat 2536 and Vikram Samvat 2066. It was around this time 527 B.C., Lord Mahavir achieved Nirvan and Guru Gautam Swami became omniscient.

Date: October 19<sup>th</sup> Monday - 2009

Time: 7:30am - 9:00am

Reading of Mangalik Sutras and Aarti

9:00am - 9:30am Snack

Tea and Diwali/New Year Snack will be served. Please call Mita Shah at 781-449-3297 for more information.

(Please feel free to bring your favorite items for the snack, though not necessary.)

## **Observance of Gyan Panchami October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009**

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> day in a new year. This is the day to respect the Jain scriptures that were composed by Gandharas – great Acharyas over a millennium ago. This is typically done by observing penance and offering veneration to Tirthankaras and great acharyas.

### **Date and time:**

Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, - 2009

10:00am - 10:30am - Pakshal, Puja, and Arti

10:30am - 12:30pm - Dev Vandan -  
Reading of prayers specific to this day

12:30pm – 1:30pm - Pot Luck Lunch (or  
observance of Akashana, if you can)  
Please call Nutan Vora at 508-366-2223  
or Mita Shah at 781-449-3297

## **Thanksgiving Day Namokar Mantra Jap and Bhavana Thursday, November 26, 2009**

Timing for the Thanksgiving Day  
Namokar Mantra Jap, Bhavana will be at  
the Jain Center.

2:30pm - 4:00pm Namokar Mantra  
Jaap and Bhavana and Arti

4:00pm - 4:30pm Refreshment

Feel free to bring your college going  
students, family members and guest.

## ***JAINA Vice President***

Yogendra Jain and Jiten Vora have been appointed as JCGB representative at the JAINA Board of Directors. Yogendra Jain has recently become Vice President of Northeast Region at JAINA. Congratulations to Yogen. Our best wishes are with him in his prosperity at JAINA level.

Yogendra Jain can be reached at 781-237-6070.

## ***Siddhachalam Trip***

Siddhachalam trip took place on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2009. Total of 83 Yatriis participated.

The first stop of the trip was Jain Center of America in Queens NY. The NY Sangh gave us a warm welcome. Darshan, Bhavna and Chaityavandan followed by lunch and Aymbil bhojan. We got many new ideas that we can implement during renovation of our new place. The next visit was Rubin Museum (Jain and Asian Exhibitions) in Manhattan NY. Suman Jain of NY, have donated personal funds with intent to introduce the world with Jainism. Through her efforts and in collaboration with Rubin Museum they have received many artifacts for the exhibition. This is a true treasure; one should not miss an opportunity to visit the museum. After the museum, the trip reached the destination, Siddhachalam (Blairstown, NJ).

We stayed overnight at Siddhachalam. In Siddhachalam group participated in Yoga, Pujas and swadhyay. Despite of the rainy Sunday, everyone enjoyed the trip thoroughly. The trip feedback was all positive. Everyone enjoyed so much that they would like to have Siddhachalam trip every year.

## What would you like to see in the new Home

As the closing date is approaching and we are counting down the days for acquiring the new property, the thoughts come to mind what new place would be like. What more we can do at the place. What can we envision for the new place to be looked like.

During the trip to Siddhachalam, we solicited opinions of our members and received excellent feedback. Since many of you did not get to participate in that trip, Executive Committee and the Renovation Committee is seeking your opinion. What would you like to see be changed? How can the building be functional to the optimum level in your opinion.

If you have any suggestion, please send an email to the President Jiten Vora at [jiten.vora@gmail.com](mailto:jiten.vora@gmail.com) or Renovation Committee Chair, Mr. Sanjay Shah at [sanjay.shah@charter.net](mailto:sanjay.shah@charter.net) before October 30th 2009.

The renovation committee will review all the suggestion thoroughly and decide on the best feasible option.

### Editor's Note

JCGB newsletter will be published in March, June, September and December this year. Any newsletter related questions should be directed to the editor, Arti Mehta. If you have any submissions for the newsletter, please send them in writing to the editor at [artimehta@gmail.com](mailto:artimehta@gmail.com) no later than the 30th of May, August and November, respectively.

### President's Message...

(.....Continued from page 1)

Jain Center of America & Sidhhachalam gave us warm welcome during the yatra.

We continue to make good progress on purchase of new property at 556, Nichols Street, Norwood. We have already signed Purchase & Sales agreement with payment 5% as initial deposit. We will be holding closing with final payment as scheduled on Oct 29, 2009. Just to reiterate that the negotiation committee headed by Sudhirbhai Shah has done excellent job in bringing property price down from original \$1.5 mil down to \$825,000.

JCGB Fund raising committee (FC) headed by Sanjaybhai Shah have concluded the fund raising campaign. With your generous support & tireless efforts of FC, we have successfully raised pledges as \$591,001. Fund collection has crossed \$200,000 mark. It is exciting to note that many youths, formal & current pathshala student participated as well.

We are happy to announce the formation of Building renovation Committee headed by Sanjaybhai Shah. Please contact him & provide valuable suggestions or ideas.

The preparations for Diwali celebration is in full swing. Pathshala students & teachers are working hard to put best show!

- Jitendra Vora

## *The Fund Raising Committee Report*

By: Sanjay Shah

The Fundraising Committee is pleased to report that the Capital Campaign that was launched to acquire the new building has successfully come to a close. The campaign has received pledges exceeding \$590,000 which means that JCGB will not only be able to acquire the new building, and make the necessary renovations, but also have sufficient reserves for its continuing operations. Over 130 families, including many second generation members of JCGB became “New Center Founder Donors”. The Committee sincerely thanks all the members who were so willing to open up their purse strings to make this dream become a reality.

The process of designing the plaque that will proudly list all donors by categories and will commemorate this campaign is nearly complete. We have also started the design work on individual plaques for the named facilities. We will be contacting the donors shortly with instructions so as to allow them to put specific wording that they prefer for their place on the plaque.

Many of you have already sent in the money to fulfill your pledge. Thank you. If you have not, may we request you to send your donation so as soon as possible?

Please mail the check to:

Jain Center of Greater Boston  
c/o. Neela Shah, Treasurer  
9 Olde Connecticut Path  
Westboro, MA 01581.

If you have any questions or suggestions or if you are interested in making a donation for the building, please contact any of the fundraising committee members.

Respectfully submitted by Fundraising Committee:

Dinesh Dalal (Home Phone: 781-444-8998, Cell: 781-424-6595)  
Pradip Gosalia (Home Phone: 508-473-1072, Cell: 508-369-5733)  
Chandra Khasgiwala (Home Phone: 978-470-0255, Cell: 978-390-1670)  
Sanjay Shah (Home Phone: 508-366-4090, Cell: 508-410-2936)

## Pathshala update

Jai Jinendra,

Pathshala session for the year 2009-10 started with Astha Prakari Pooja (led by Pankajbhai and Mitaben Shah) and Dev Shahtra Guru Pooja (led by Yogendrabhai and Preeti Jain). With their guidance students understood the meaning of the rituals, while learning how to perform the Poojas. Shardule Shah gave detailed reasoning of Nav Aang Puja.

During Paryushan & Daslaxna kids were encouraged to follow simple things, such as, reciting three Namokar Mantras a day, not wasting food, following a Jain diet etc. as listed on the Parva Sheet. Few students also did Tapsaya

- Kopal Jain observed 3 upvas
- Pankti Tamboli observed 1 upvas
- Rishabh Kodia observed 1 upvas

To recognize their efforts all students were awarded Trophies and Gift cards on behalf of the Pathshala staff.

Another accomplishment of our Pathshala students was to raise over **\$1500 towards the new Jain Center**. It is very important for the Children, the future members of JCGB, to feel the ownership and to get the feeling of belongings to the new place. Artiben Mehta single handed led the project by convincing Fund Raising Committee to create a spot for the group, sending emails to the parents and students and also verbal communication to raise the funds. Students were asked to donate \$1, \$2, \$5, \$20 or any amount. The money can be their Tooth fairy fund, part of birthday present, part of Christmas present or by a small job.

The pathshala parents and students responded very enthusiastically. The funds were raised in no time. We have been able to collect **\$1593** through the efforts of students, parents and Artiben Mehta.

The students are now a part of “

## Pathshala Class of 2009-2010” Founding Donor Member.

We greatly appreciate all the enthusiastic participation and as token of our gratitude all students will receive certificates marking their contributions.

As always, new members of JCGB can get further details about Pathshala from the JCGB website ([www.jcgb.org](http://www.jcgb.org)) or by calling me (508.543.5131). We encourage all children to join our Pathshala team.

Thank you,

Mamta Mehta.

## Pathshala dates for 2009-2010

Pathshala will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup>, December, December 6<sup>th</sup>, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, February 7<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Pathshala’s Location

We conduct our regular sessions for pathshala at following location:

Bird Middle School  
625 Washington Street  
East Walpole MA 02032  
<http://walpole.k12.ma.us/bms/>

## *Swadhyay Coordinator*

Rajeshbhai Mehta, our Swadhyay Coordinator for last few years, have decided to settle down in Ahmedabad, India. He has moved to India in September 2009. We thank him for his services and we wish him well in his new endeavor.

Dharmraj Khot has agreed to take over Swadhyay classes. He will continue teaching of Tattvarth Sutra. We are lucky to have such a scholar in our community. We urge every one to take advantage of the program. If you attend the class once, I am sure you would not want to miss it ever.



