



JAIN CENTER OF GREATER BOSTON

Right Faith, Right Knowledge, Right Conduct

June 2010

www.jcgb.org

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President's Report ...

Dear members,

Jai Jinendra!

It is indeed an exciting time for our center. We have been waiting to move to a larger Center for many years. Our dream has come true. This is it! It would not have been possible without dedication & hard-work from our members. Hats off to the buiding search committee and renovation committee members who work tirelessly to upgrade facility to excellent condition within specified budget.

We have planned Uthapan – Sthapan celebration for June 20th, 2010 and June 26th-28th, 2010 under spiritual advice and guidance of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, H.H. Shri Devendrakirtiji and Shri Hiteshbhai Shah

During this event, we will carry out a 1.3 mile procession from Old center to the New center for the first time in JCGB history. Uthapan – Sthapan vidhi of our idols will be conducted with austerity at the auspicious times. We have invited well-known musician to give special meaning to each Vidhi & Pujans. We anticipate overwhelming participation from members,

The preparations are in full swing for this mega event. Please participate fully by taking partd in various pujans, taking boli and donating your time by joining one of the subcommittee. We all should feel pride & sense of belongness. The Executive committee, various sub-committees & many voluteers continue to put their best efforts.

Sincerely,
Jitendra Vora

New Jain Center Clean-up day

Date: June 13th, 2010, 9AM

We are looking for your help to clean-up our new center before official opening.

Please show your strong support & signup.

Contact: Sanjay Shah @ 508-366-4090 or sanjay.shah@charer.net

Program Agenda Timeline

June 20th, 2010, Sunday

- 7:45am Ceremonial Poojans
12:15pm Uthapan Vidhi
1:00pm Swamivatsalya Lunch

June 26th, 2010, Saturday

- 2:00pm Ceremonial Poojans
5:00pm Lecture by Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji
5:45pm Lecture by H.H.Shri Devendrakirtiji
6:30pm Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
6:45pm Swamivatsalya Dinner
8:30pm Cultural Musical Program

June 27th, 2010, Sunday

- 7:30am Ceremonial Poojans
9:15am Procession/Parade
11:45am Pokhana
12:15pm Sthapana Vidhi
12:48pm Sthapana
1:15pm Swamivatsalya Lunch
2:30pm Ceremonial Poojans
6:45pm Dharavahi Ceremony
7:00pm Swamivatsalya Dinner
8:30pm Bhavana

June 28th, 2010, Monday

- 7:30am Dwar opening
8:15am Breakfast

The Committees

The upcoming auspicious event of moving to the New Center has created a real buzz in the community. Volunteers are working in various capacities to complete the task and get ready for the big event. If you can help, please come forward and contact any of the committee members.

Logistic Committee:

Jitenra Vora
Arti Mehta
Shrenik Shah
Haresh Tamboli
Narendra Zaveri

Vidhi Vidhan Committee

Pankaj Shah
Dharmraj Khot
Kulbhushan Jain
Ashokbhai Shah
Harendrabhai Shah

Food Committee

Kiran Shah
Anshuman Gosalia
Gauria Jain
Bharat Shah, Nashua
Neela Shah, Westborough

Renovation Committee

Sanjay Shah
Dilip Gandhi
Pankaj Shah
Sudhir Shah
Premal Vora
Kashmira Vora
Priti Jain
Dilip Jain
Pradip Gosalia

Puja Samagri Committee

Mita Shah
Chitra Dalal
Laxmiben Jain
Raniben Jain
Jyotsnaben Shah
Lalitaben Shah

Dignitory, Vidhikars and Musicians

Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji will be the honorable dignitary and under his spiritual guidance we will commence the ceremony. Our esteemed guests are well-known vidhikars in India. Shri Hiteshbhai is from Ahmedabad and he is well known for conducting puja vidhis in accordance with Swetamber faith. H.H. Shri Davendrakirtiji is from Mulbhidri and he will guide us in vidhi in accordance with Digamber faith. We have incorporated both types of the poojan vidhi in our program and both dignitaries will perform most of the pujas. This is a non sectarian event and every one can take part in all the pujas. We urge you to take part in as many pujans as you can. Let us make this event a unique to our sangh.

Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji

Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji does not need any introduction to the Jain Community in North America and world wide. My pen will fall short if I even attempt to compile his contributions to Jainism and his accomplishments. All we can say is what we are as a Jain community in North America is all because of his efforts and his blessings.

H.H. Shri Devendrakirtiji

His Holiness Shri Devendrakirtiji Bhattarakji of Hombuja Math, Karnataka State, will provide his blessings, guidance, and presence for the upcoming Uthapan and Sthapan Vidhi at our Jain Center. H.H. Shri Devendrakirtiji is one of the most senior Bhattaraka and head pontiff of Hombuja Math located in Shimoga District of the State of Karnataka.

H.H. Swamiji has been coming to the U.S. and guiding many Jain Sanghs with pratishtha and sthapan vidhis for last 15 years. He is an expert in pratistha, panchakalyanaka, sthaphana and other religious vidhis and ceremonies. In fact, he performed our current pratistha vidhi in June 2002, and we are fortunate that he has agreed to graciously guide us through uthapan and sthapan vidhi this time also.

H.H. Bhattarakji has performed numerous vidhis and pratisthas in India over last 50 years and remains one of the most sought after pontiffs for religious ceremonies.

Vidhikar Shri Hiteshbhai Shah

Hiteshbhai is a young but highly acclaimed vidhikar who has performed numerous types of vidhis and poojans in most major cities in India. He is one of the most popular vidhikars for Chicago and London Jain centers. He has also performed pratisthas and Anjan Shalakas in Africa, Singapore and Australia. He is known for his clarity of pronunciation of Sanskrit based rituals and shlokas.

Vidhikar Shri Ashok Sanghavi

For the benefit of the Jain community living in USA, Shri Ashok Sanghavi from Indianapolis has been performing Jain vidhis and poojans all over USA. He has gracefully accepted our invitation to perform all poojans on Saturday, the June 20th.

Sangeetkar Shri Ashish Mehta

Shri Ashish Mehta started professional singing in 1990 in Ahmedabad. He performs shows and Jain programs like Prarthnasabha, Snatra Pooja, Anjansalaka, Pratisthas, and many more. In 2007 he launched his first album under Arham Production which is also a provider and producer of religious, sugam sangeet, ghazals and entertainment programs and CDs. By 2010, Ashish Mehta has created over 10 CDs of Jain stavans and songs. He has traveled to UK, Africa, and USA and has presented music in Jain ceremonies.

Tabla Player Shri Akshay Navaladi

Akshay Navaladi was born into a family of classical music lovers; Akshay commenced his music lessons at the age of 6 years. He is currently a disciple of Ustaad Akram Khan of Delhi/Ajrada gharana. Akshay has won many awards and has performed on Indian television. Akshay has been giving performances with both Hindustani and Karnatic music artists for the last several years in Boston area. Akshay recently graduated from Boston University where he pursued his B.S. in Biomedical Engineering and is currently working at Boston Scientific Corporation.

Table Player Prakash Teli

Our own community member Prakash Teli will accompany the team on Tabla.

Keyboard Player Shrenik Shah

From our own Jain community, Shrenik Shah will play the keyboard and accompany Shri Ashish Mehta. Shrenik is an accomplished pianist and keyboard player, and also a composer and guitarist. He has taught music for one year in local school in Massachusetts.

Program Information

Puja and Swamivatslya Bolies:

Attached is a program schedule detailing various pujas and related bolies. As you can see the bolies have been kept to very minimal amount so that more families can participate. If you are planning to take part in any puja and/or sponsoring swamivatslya, please send your pledges to Tarang Jain by emailing him emailme@tarang.net or call (H) 781-210-7321, (Cell) 978-319- 7300

Procession:

There will be a grand procession of floats carrying Murtis. Along with the community members, 108 women/men with Kalash follow the floats. The procession will start at 9:30am and will travel through Chapel St., Fisher St., Kathleen St., Geraldine St., and will conclude at Nichols St. At JCGB we will be having such a grand procession first time ever. Let us make it memorable.

In Kalashvahi, only women will be able to hold the Kalash. If you pledge for Kalash you will receive silver Kalash topped with silver leaves and silver coconut, a set of women's clothing, and a set of men's clothing. These are the items for you to use during the procession and to keep afterwards. Cost has been kept as minimal amount of \$101 for the set. Please contact Diptiben Shah @ 508-393-9361 or Raniben Jain @ 781-278-9851 for your participation.

Normally, in India people do not wear shoes in this type of procession but keeping in mind the New England weather, you can wear slippers made from rubber, plastic or cotton material.

Dinner/Lunch RSVP:

Food committee is enthusiastically working to serve various lunches and dinners during the program. If you have not already done so, it is essential to send your RSVP for dinner and lunch. Please call Tarang Jain (H) 781-210-7321, (Cell) 978-319-7300.

Cultural Program:

The Cultural program will include message from dignitary Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji and a musical program by Shri Ashishbhai. Some of our community members will present special group item. It will be followed by Raas Garba for the entire community. Live singing of Shri Ashishbhai, live band will give a special boost to the garba program. Make sure to join us for fun filled evening.

Swamivatsalya:

You have great opportunity to sponsor Swamivatsalya for sangh during auspicious events:

June 20th Lunch: \$1100

June 26th Dinner: \$5000

June 27th Lunch: \$4000

June 27th Dinner: \$1100

Importance of Various Vidhis and Poojans

Thanks to Vidhi Vidhan committee members for drafting this document. It describes importance of the Vidhi & Pujan planned for the event

Item No. 2: Nav Grah Poojan – June 20th

This is the first Vidhi of the Utthapan/Sthapan of Murties. Based on Jain/Hindu astrology, the favorable line-up of the nine planets is critical for all auspicious events. This Poojan is a worship of the nine planets requesting their blessings for the Utthapan Vidhi in the event that the line-up may not be favorable. If desired, the devotees performing this Poojan may bring their personal ornaments, rings, or necklaces, with the appropriate gems and stones corresponding to the planet that they would like to worship for the Poojan. After the Poojan, they may take these personal ornaments home and wear them for good luck.

Item No. 3: Das Dikpal Poojan – Jun 20th

This is worship of ten demi-gods representing ten directions. This Poojan is a request to these gods to prevent all evil elements coming from all directions and enable us to perform the Utthapan Vidhi without any hardship. The names of these ten demi-gods are: Indra, Agni, Yama, Nairuta, Varuna, Väyu, Kuber, Ishän, Brahma, Näg.

Item No. 4, 5, and 6: Poojans for Utthapan Vidhi – June 20th

These are the unique Poojans which will be directed by H.H. Bhattarak Shri Devendrakirtiji. He is bringing special items for these Poojans from India. He has placed an extreme importance on performing these Poojans.

Item No. 7: Astha Mangal Poojan – June 20th

It is a Jain tradition to perform Poojan of eight auspicious objects which are: Swastik, Shrivatsa, Nandhyävarta, Vardhamänka, Bhadräsän, Kalash, Minayugal, Darpana. The devotees performing this Poojan will be given the Astha Mangal Toran (Garland) which they may take home with them for good luck.

Item No. 9: Shanti Kalash – Jun 20th ,Sunday

This vidhi is performed for peace and happiness of living beings. This is generally performed as the concluding event of any Jain ceremony. The observance seeks the welfare and peace of all beings in the universe.

Item 12: Bhumi Shudhdhikaran: June 26th

It is an important event as it is the very first event that will take place at the New Center. This Poojan symbolizes washing away any undesirable and un-Jain like activities that may have taken place on the land and in the building of the new Center. This Poojan is the first Poojan that begins the sanctification of the new Center for the Sthapan vidhi.

Item 13: Lubdhi Nidhän Poojan

Lubdhi means special power and achievements. By properly observing nonviolence, penance, self control, and forgiveness, the soul is purified and achieves such powers. By worshipping those who

have achieved such powers, and following right vows we may also achieve the same.

The Lubdhi Nidhän Poojan mändalu will be colorfully designed with different grains. This Poojan is an obeisance to Lord Mahavir, his first 11 Ganadhar (disciples), and the 45 Agams scriptures. It is also a special worship of Guru Gautam and admiration of his unique cosmic and mystique power (Lubdhi) he had as a result of his penance and devotion to Lord Mahavir. It is believed that by performing this Poojan, the devotees are blessed with health, bliss, and prosperity.

All participants will perform the entire Poojan. There will 11 setups for this Poojan for a maximum of 11 families. At any given time during the Poojan, only three families can participate. It is acceptable to change the family members as long as it does not delay the Poojan.

At the end of the Poojan, each of these 11 families will be allowed to take home the 5 inch x 5 inch copper yantra on which they had performed the Poojans as an auspicious, sacred, and beneficial item to keep in their homes.

All 10 Poojans will be performed by Shri Hiteshbhai with the guidance and blessing of Shri Chitrabhanuji.

Item 18: Kumbha Sthäpan – June 27

It is the first event of all Jain auspicious celebrations. The Kumbh (copper or brass pot with Astha Mangal) will be decorated with leaves and a coconut. It will be placed in the new temple with the recitation of sacred mantras. At the end of the two day ceremony, the devotee will take home the Astha Mangal Kumbha (pot) home as a symbol of good luck and as a memento of the Sthäpan celebration.

Item 19: Deepak Sthäpan – June 27

Light symbolizes knowledge that guides us in righteous direction. The devotee will light the deepak accompanied by recitations of auspicious Mantra. It is a traditional Jain/Hindu event which is generally performed by the guest of

honor of an event. However, it is open to all devotees.

Item 21: Toran Bandhan – June 27

This is welcome event of the procession arriving at the new temple. When the procession arrives at the new temple, the devotee will symbolically decorate the doors of the new temple with garlands.

Item 22: Ponkhans – June 27

This is a unique welcoming ceremony. Three pratimajis and the Navakar Mantra Shila will be welcomed by different families when the procession arrives at the new temple. Only after the Ponkhans vidhi will the three Pratimäjis and the Navakär Mantra Sheela be taken to the vedi room for the Sthäpan vidhi, and the Jain sangh will enter the new temple.

Items 25 through 33 – June 27

These Poojans are a part of the Sthäpan vidhis that will be performed by devotees under the guidance of H.H. Bhattrakji Shri Devendrakeertiji. Since all of the pratimajis will be placed in the vedi room for the next few years, the vidhis are as important as the pratistha vidhi. Shri Devendrakeertiji will bring special samagris from India for all these Poojans.

Important vidhi among various Puja are Pran Pratishta and Suri Mantra Prayog. These are special mantras used to instill “pran (life)” in the murtis.

Item 34: Adhara Abhisheka

This ceremony will be performed to purify and consecrate the pratimajis and the Navakar mantra sheela. It is also for the sanctification and removal of any impurities and undesirable actions that may have happened during the Utthpän and Sthäpan ceremonies. Eighteen oblations containing different kinds of pure water, herbs, and special substances will be used for 18 Abhisheka.