



Ahimsa is Protector

Timeless Wisdom...

JVB Preksha Meditation Center Houston



Search Truth Yourself

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2007

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Welcome



Samani Akshay Pragya Samani Vinay Pragya

As the New year unfolds, we are pleased to announce the arrival of new samanijis to our JVB Houston center. Our new Samanijis are Akshay Pragya and Vinay Pragya.

Over the years, Samanijis have made significant contribution towards positive living at the JVB Center. As part of the JVB's activities, Yoga and meditation classes, various retreat camps & workshops, Gyanshala for children and special programs like new year, Deepawali, Navratra, are being conducted under the guidance of Samanijis. Such ac-

tivities provide spiritual upbringing and much needed cultural impetus in our community. These activities also help first generation Jain parents to impart Jain principles to the newer generation.

Houston Jain community takes this opportunity to heartily welcome both the Samanijis to the centre for our spiritual guidance. It is also a time to express our gratitude to our earlier Samaniji's, Sanmati Praygaji & Jayant Pragya for their guidance for all these years.

In the words of Acharya Mahaprajnaji, "Spiritual development is essential along with material development. I believe that peace is not possible without spiritualism". Therefore, let's achieve good health, peace of mind and divine experience without any barrier of cast, creed, sex, race and faith.

Kirti Jain

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Contact Us

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www.jvbhouston.org

Mark your calendar for Samnijis Welcome program:
02/11/2007 at 10:00 AM at JVB Center

JVB Participation in MLK silent march and rally



On Saturday January 13th, 2007, under overcast skies, thousands of Houstonians representing various organizations and religions came together to honor the memory and the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The JVB contingent, led by Samani Sanmati Praygaji and Samani Jayant Praygaji, was well received, with well wishers waving and acknowledging them along the way. [Complete Story...](#)

Reflections

Bhagwan Mahavira says, "*Savve pana paramahammiya* - The life is dear to all." Nobody, in this world, would ever want to lose his life at any cost. Even the smallest creature on this earth wants to sustain. Not only do they want to live but they try to subsist longer and longer. However, longevity of a life is not as significant and charming as that of a healthy and peaceful life. Masses are running after quality of things. They want a better quality of any stuff they use in their day-to-day life. They get a hold on better quality of sofa-set, TV-set, Wine-set, Tea-set, jewelry-set, but are never aware of their mind set. The material assets upgrade the living standard but not the life standard. The present so-called living standard is resulting into depression and dejection in preponderance. The study shows within ten years depression will be one of the fatal diseases in the world. Quality of life is a healthy life. Good health brings the success in every field of life.

Samani Sanmati Pragyaj

Bon-Voyage



[More Pictures](#)

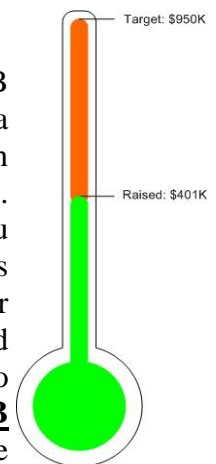
On January 7th 2007, one hundred plus participants gathered at JVB Houston Center located on Highway 6, to bid farewell to Samani Jayant Pragyaji and Samani Sanmati Pragyaji. The farewell program was highlighted with a speech by Samani Jayant Pragyaji. Numerous people gave their testimonial on how their life has changed for good since they started participating in various activities at JVB Houston. Children from Gyanshala sang bhajans and gave testimonials. The audience also requested Samani Sanmati Pragyaji to give a brief speech and the program was extended by an additional fifteen minutes. This program was a great way to show our gratitude to Samaniji for making us all a little more spiritual and healthy. - *Hasmukh Patel*

JVB Center Construction Status



After years of efforts, the dreams and aspiration of all JVB members to have their own center is closer to becoming a reality. Around 2 acres of land was acquired last year on Schiller Road and architectural plans are nearly complete. Donations to the building funds have accelerated but as you can see from the picture on the right that the center needs more. This will be a center that we will be proud to call our own so on behalf of the board and executive committee and community at large, we urge you all to donate generously to this very worthy cause. Please make the check out to **JVB Houston** and hand it to any of the executive committee members or board of directors or mail it to the JVB Center.

As always all donation to JVB Houston are Tax Deductible. - *Ajay Khater*



Etc...

The Problem Solving Mantra

“Savva Sahoanam”

- Recite the mantra for ten minutes everyday.
- (Count the mantra on your fingers and when you finish it caress the diseased part with your hand.)
- Purpose: Solution for critical diseases

Test your knowledge about Jain religion

The answers of last month's questions are as follows:

1. Who founded Jain religion? **Answer:** The Tirthankar, who is free from attachment and hatred, founded Jain religion.
2. What qualifications are essential for becoming a Jain prophet? **Answer:** The karma namely, 'Tirthankar Nam Karma' (Tirthankar body determining karma) is responsible for becoming Jain prophet (Tirthankar), which occurs by certain auspicious jobs.
3. Who is the representative of Jain prophet at the present time? **Answer:** Acharya.

Questions for this month are as follows:

1. Which particular word is used for Jain Scriptures?
2. How many Scriptures had Bhagvan Mahavira written during his life time?
3. Which language the Jain Scriptures has been written in?

(If you are among the first five to respond with correct answers by Feb 21, 2007 on newsletter@jvbhouston.org we will mention your name in the next issue.)

Voice of the Omniscient

“BANDHA-PAMOKKHO TUJJH-AJJHATTHEVA”

(The potential of bondage and liberation is within you.)

“APPA KATTA VIKATTA YA”

(You are your destiny maker.)

(Abstract From Jain Agamas)

Calendar of events

February, 2007:

- ◆ Sunday, 02/11/2007 from 10:00 to 12:00 noon:
Welcome program for revered Samanijis (Samani Akshay Pragya and Samani Vinay Pragya).
- ◆ Every Saturday from 9:00 to 10:30am: Yoga and meditation classes.
- ◆ 1st and the 3rd Sundays from 10:00 to 12:00 noon: Gyanshala (Children education)
- ◆ 1st and the 3rd Sundays from 10:00 to 12:00 noon: Yoga and Meditation classes for Adults
- ◆ 2nd and the 4th Sundays from 10:00 to 12:00 noon: Meditation, Prvachan & Bhajan.

Special events for the year:

Annual family camp- March 30, 31 and April 1

Work-shops:

Saturday, May 19, 2007 -“Depression!!!!!! No more.”

Saturday, July 28, 2007 -“Cure your Diabetes”

Samani's Introduction



Name: Samani Akshay Pragya
Birth place: Tapara (Rajasthan), India
Initiation: May, 1982, Ahmedabad (Gujarat), India
Qualification: M.A. in Jainology, JVBI (Ladnun)
Language known: Sanskrit, Prakrit, Hindi, English, Rajasthani
Field of Specialization: Jain Philosophy, Meditation & Yoga, Science of Living, Non-Violence

Achievements: 'Niyojika' (Head of Saman order) from 2002 to Jan 2007, Member of Board of Management (BOM), JVBI; Member of management committee of Saman order (Pragya parishad), guided parmarthik Shikshan Sanstha for 4 yrs.

Other Information: Organized many Preksha Meditation camps, Attended Interfaith Conferences, many Other Conferences & Seminars in India & overseas

Traveling : Almost all the states of India, USA, UK, Russia, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Italy, Holland, Poland, France, Switzerland, Finland and other Asian & European countries



Name: Samani Vinay Pragya
Birth place: Birpur (Bihar), India
Initiation: 10th November 2002, Ahmedabad(Gujrat), India
Qualification: B. Sc. (Banasthali Vidhyapith) M.A. in Jain Philosophy and Comparative religion. M. Phil. in Jainology, NET.
Designation: Lecturer, JVBI, Ladnun, (INDIA).
Languages: Hindi, Sanskrit, English, Rajasthani.

Other Information: Participated in Conferences and Seminars, Conducted Camps, written Dissertation and some Research articles too

Traveling: USA, UK, Nepal, Many states of India.

Useful Links & Email Addresses

JVB Houston:

Website: www.jvbhouston.org

General Information: info@jvbhouston.org

Newsletter: newsletter@jvbhouston.org

Retreat Camp: retreatcamp@jvbhouston.org

Gyanshala: gyanshala@jvbhouston.org

Other Links:

www.terapanthonline.com

www.jainvishwabharati.org

www.terapanthsamaj.com



Jain Vishwa Bharati

Houston, Texas

About us

Contact us



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Spiritual Guidance



Samani
Akshay Pragya Ji



Samani
Vinay Pragya Ji

Upcoming Events:

- International Camp in India www.Preksha.com
- Annual family camp- March 30, 31, and April 1, 2007

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