



## JSOC NEWSLETTER OCT 2021

A Message from the JSOC Board of Directors:

Jai Jinendra!

With upcoming festive season, we would like to wish every member of Jain Society of Calgary, Subh Deepavali and Prosperous New year.

We celebrate Mahavir Nirvan (Diwali) on the new-moon day of Kartik. Mahavir attained Nirvana (liberation) in 527 BC. This means Mahavir reached moksha, or freedom from the cycle of reincarnation. The festival of Diwali falls on the last day of the month of Ashvin, the end of the year in the Indian calendar. Each year Jains light lamps on Diwali to symbolize keeping the light of lord Mahavir's knowledge alive.

Diwali is celebrated to remove darkness from our life and spread light to the lives of others as well as ourselves. Due to another year COVID-19 and AHS Guidelines, this year again we could not get together and celebrate Lord Mahavir Nirvana which falls on Thursday, Nov-4th 2021. Be safe physically and mentally healthy by engaging in spiritual activities like Pooja, Stavan/ Stuti or Meditation etc.

Our best Diwali wishes for you and your families

<https://indiafightscorona.giveindia.org> <https://donate.indiacovidresources.in/>

With gratitude for your ongoing support for our community,  
**JSOC Board of Directors:**

**President** - Sachin Vakharia

**Secretary** - Rahul Shial

**Director, Pathshala** - Vishranti Vakharia

**Director, Events** - Rishabh Gandhi

**Director, New Ideas** - Rahul Bohra

**Advisors:** Mukesh Shah and Suhas Shah

**Vice President** - Biren Shah

**Treasurer** - Alak Shah

**Director, Youth Development and Fundraising** - Renu Chandarana

**Director, Logistics & Facility Operation** - Subodh Peramanu

**Director, Web and Communication** - Shilpa Salgia



# 2021 Family Picnic

On August 15, 2021 – India's Independence Day, JSOC celebrated family picnic with attendance of over 70 JSOC members. Picnic was held at Bowness Park. Family's attending the picnic had a great engagement with other community members.

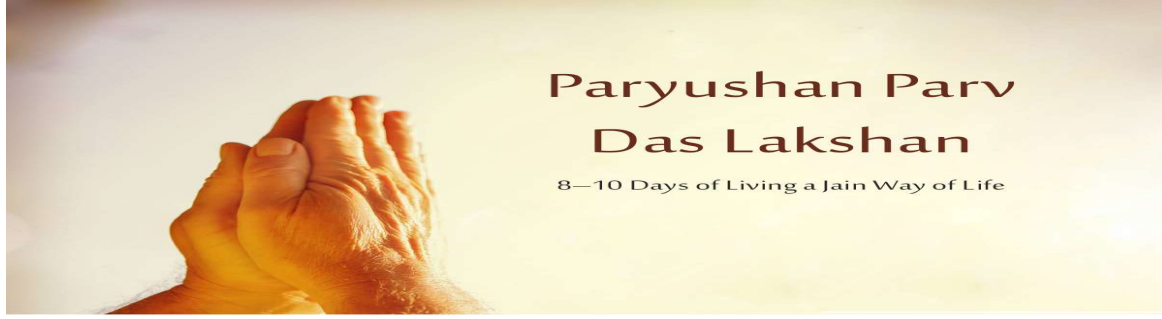
Paathshala kids started the event with singing Indian flag hosting and signing both Indian and Canadian national anthems. Followed by one –minute games for adults and separate games for kids were arranged.

As always, even was ably supported by large group of both young adult volunteers from community. JSOC would like to thank you to all the volunteers for their time and effort to make the event successful in the middle of Pandemic.

Comments from Community members after the event were very encouraging and reflected the continued support of JSOC members.







## Paryushan and DasLakshan Parv

2021 Paryushan and Daslakshan parv were celebrated by from Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. Virtual pratikraman were hosted this year for members to attend at large. One of the most important aspects this parv is to do pratikraman.

Pratikramana (Sanskrit: **प्रतिक्रमण**; also spelled Pratikraman) (lit. "Introspection"), is a ritual during which Jains repent (prayaschit) for their sins and non-meritorious activities committed knowingly or inadvertently during their daily life through thought, speech or action.

Another, larger tenet of this parv is to perform some form of fasting (Tapasaya) signifying giving up materialistic aspect of life.

2021 witnessed several members, including kids doing Tapasaya reflecting strong beliefs in Jain principles. JSOC would like to thank you and recognize few of the members that did Tapasaya.



Hemal Damani  
8 Ekasanas



Shital Shah  
7 Upvaas



Mamta Mehta  
Sundari Tap - 60  
Ayambils (60 days)

Shravya Shah  
1 upvaas,  
1 ekasana,  
2 besana



Timish Shah  
8 Upvaas



# JSOC Women's Committee

## activities:



"Fast  
not  
Furious"

A few of the ladies from the group took part in Sportchek Mother's day virtual run, on May 9th, and completed between 5 and 10K Run/Walk. 9 members made up a team called "Fast and Not Furious". We had other members who participated in the event by completing their own challenge of 5-10K to support the team.



On Father's day June 20th, the women rose to the challenge again bringing along their families to complete another 5-10K walk/bike/run event.

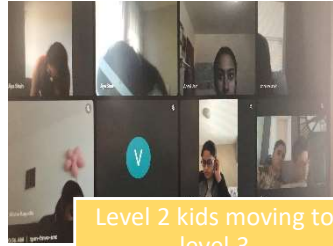


The group is planning some more activities for fall and winter, stay tuned.

# JSOC Paathshala Update:

In June 2021 kids in Paathshala level 1 & 2 had their exam. 8 kids in Level 1 and 7 kids in Level 2 appeared and passed their levels

Level 1 kids made individual 2 minutes video on virtues and Level 2 kids made individual PowerPoint presentation on their given Jaina Blog questions.



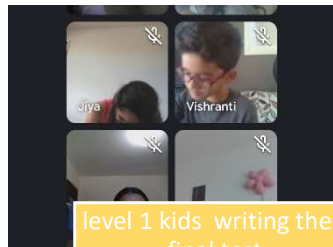
Level 2 kids moving to level 3

To recognize the efforts and commitment, graduating students will receive Medals from JSOC before end of this year

New Paathshala year for 21-22 have already started from September 2021. We will still be using online platform like Zoom and GoToMeeting.

This year's Paathshala will see some new teachers from community, New Level 1 teachers are Varsha Shial & Tripty Jain. Level 2 teacher Jasmine Shah.

Kids under 6 teacher is Vishranti Vakharia and Hiral shah  
new Level 2 graduate Misha Kapadia and Jinen Vakharia will be assisting in pathshala kid's under 6 and Level 1



level 1 kids writing their final test

## Upcoming Events:



We are hopeful to have any of the upcoming events provided they fit AHS guidelines for gatherings:

- Diwali Puja - Lord Mahavir Puja, Nirvana Day Celebration
- December Social Event
- JSOC Online Paathshala for Kids continues online
- Annual General meeting in Feb 2022

## Did you know?

- JAINA blog setup on our website under the News and Publications tab.
- If anyone has PDF versions of Jain books with Pooja material, Stavans etc., and would like to post them on the website / JSOC Google drive, please send it to [webcomm.jsoc@gmail.com](mailto:webcomm.jsoc@gmail.com). We will endeavor to include such material on our JSOC platform so all community members can have access.



Provide  
your info  
to  
benefit  
others

- We organized our first networking group virtual meeting on Friday 1st October 2021. Purpose of meeting was to know our members (meet and greet) and how we can support our community and each other professionally. We had great success for virtual meeting. Entrepreneurs introduced their business and job seekers introduced themselves. JSOC is planning for more events in this

group as well. JSOC encourages everyone to join the group to support each other. We are trying to create databank, we look forward to your support. Thank you Biren Shah for organizing the event.



# Formation of JSOC Charitable Organization

Subodh Peramanu, Director of Logistics and Facility Operations:

- Feasibility of converting JSOC to a charitable organization was presented to JSOC committee in the presence of advisors.
- The committee and advisors recommended to pursue conversion of JSOC to a charitable organization since the benefits outweigh the disadvantages.
- Email notification will be sent to JSOC members to find if any member/s are interested to discuss
- JSOC would like to say thank you to Shah Trading Company for donation of Jin Darshan books to JSOC members. Also, thank you to Shrish Shah, Toronto and Sanant and Madhuriben Doshi from Calgary to coordinate and organized the deliver of "Jin Darshan Books" to Calgary members



## Send Us Your Announcements:

JSOC is here to support you and all of your accomplishments!

Submit announcements by emailing:

[calgaryjains@gmail.com](mailto:calgaryjains@gmail.com)

If there is anyone you know who is not receiving JSOC communication please tell them to email us at [calgaryjains@gmail.com](mailto:calgaryjains@gmail.com) with a written request for their email address added to our newsletter and email updates.

Thank you for your continued support.

**JSOC MEMBERS NEWS &  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**