

ICPR Workshop on  
**ESSENCE OF SAMAYAS RA**  
Organized by  
**Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi  
& International School for Jain Studies, New Delhi**

Venue  
**Shri Atma Vallabh Jain Smarak Shikshan Nidhi**  
G. T. Karnal Road, Alipur, Delhi – 110036

(4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019)

## **REPORT**

### **Theme of Workshop**

The term Jainism which means faith of Jains is derived from the word *Jina* which means the conqueror or the sensual inclinations and tainted emotion. Thus *Jina* is one who conquers the inclinations of five senses, destroys all obscuring karmas and attains Omniscience through self-effort including observing vows, penance etc. Thus Jainism has a mature tradition of metaphysics and spirituality. The name of ċ rya Kundakunda shines like a resplendent constellation in the sky of this rich tradition. He was an author of many treatises, one of which is Samayas ra, which is the most outstanding one in the field of spirituality. It is replete with many mystical ideas and many thoughts worth contemplation. ċ rya Kundakunda needs no introduction. He was born in the 1st century B.C. His great book Samayas ra has 400 odd verses and covers the state of empirical soul (par samay) and its journey to become pure soul (sva-samay). Nothing surpasses the excellence of Samayas ra that is self-contained, self-determining and self-sufficient in its objective of identifying pure and empirical soul. The soul is the sole determinant of its own pure psychic status. The soul never loses its soul hood. The author simultaneously describes the state of embodied self-side by side to make us understand the difference between transcendental or pure soul and our own soul embodied with impurities from which it is to be liberated.

Samayas ra deals with the nature of the self, the term *samaya* being used synonymously with *tman* or *Brahman*. Samayas ra is the ultimate conscious reality. The enlightened soul has the infinite glory. It has its innate ability to demolish the power of Karmas- both auspicious as well as inauspicious- *pu ya* and *p pa* which are the cause of the cycle of births and deaths and are an obstacle in the path of the achieving liberation from this cycle. In a living organism the soul can be conceived as the nucleus circumscribed by the limits of the gross physical body. It is to be liberated and enlighten. Right faith (*Samyak Dar ana*), Right knowledge (*Samyak Jñ na*) and Right conduct (*Samyak C ritra*) constitute the Path to attain liberation of soul i.e. *mok a* and called *Mok am rga*. The trio is known as “The three Jewels - *Ratnatraya*”. However these three are one and part of the inherent nature of the pure soul but described separately for us to understand and practice, one must take a transcendental view beyond all standpoints to realize the pure soul. Samayas ra is a reality, concept and text par excellence.

The term Samayas ra means the essential nature of the Self. This absolute Unity is transcendental in nature. Hence the various appellations based upon different points of view really have no relevancy in that state. The reality of the external world is admitted by the Jain metaphysics and c rya Kundakunda follows the tradition of Jain metaphysics.

In this seven-days workshop, Samayas ra was taught in a comprehensive manner by a distinguished team of scholars very well conversant with the text and its author.

### **Venue for the Workshop**

Earlier the venue for this workshop was finalized at ISJS center-Mangalayatan University, Aligarh. However, due to ICPR recommendations, the venue for the workshop was shifted to Shri Atma Vallabh Jain Smarak Shikshan Nidhi, Delhi which incidentally is also ISJS Centre for its annual residential summer schools for overseas scholars.

### **Applications Process for the Workshop**

After getting formal approval from ICPR, ISJS and ICPR jointly announced about this workshop on their websites along with application form. In a short time both ISJS and ICPR received more than 200 applications jointly. However, the seats were limited to 30. Therefore, ICPR and ISJS jointly shortlisted applications as per ICPR norms and 35 applications were shortlisted but due to some dropouts the final number of participants came to 33.

### **Preparation for the Workshop**

After getting the formal approval from ICPR, ISJS immediately started contacting resources expert faculty members, participants to confirm their participation and making arrangements at the Smarak and other logistic facilities.

Simultaneously ISJS started planning the workshop schedule to include the concept of soul in all Indian religions with reference to Jain concept, detailed exposure of the author Kundkanda about his personal and philosophical and spiritual contributions, and atop down approach of introducing the overall concept of Samayas ra followed by detailed reading and teaching select verses from each chapter. Enough time was planned for discussions between the participants and the faculty members. Special session was also planned so that the apticipants can select one of the ten topics for brief presentation to the group. To ensure 100% attendance by participants, attendance was recorded of each participant during the session itself.

### **Detailed Daily Schedule given**

#### **Day- 1. (Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

- **Inaugural Program (10:00AM-12:30PM)**
  - Chief Guest: Prof. Ramesh Chandra Sinha, Chairman, ICPR
  - Keynote Speech: Prof. Dayanand Bhargava

- Chairperson: Prof. G. C. Tripathi, Director, BL Institute of Indology, Delhi
- Guest of Honour: Dr. Upendra Kumar, Member Secretary (I/c), ICPR
- Welcome Speech: Dr. Shugan C Jain, Coordinator Workshop & Chairman, ISJS
- Comper & Vote of thanks: Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Joint Director, ISJS

Prof. Dayanand Bhargava, Chairman, Veda-Vijnana Peeth, J.R. Rajasthan Sanskrit University, Jaipur & Professor Emeritus, Jain Vishva Bharati University, Ladnun delivered Keynote speech. He talked about Concept of soul in Indian philosophical traditions. He threw light on the concept of soul of Sankhya darshan, Vedanta darshan, Nyaya darshan, Mimansa darshan, Baudhdha darshan. Finally he compared these concepts with Jain darshan.

Prof. Ramesh Chandra Sinha, Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research & Retd. Professor and Head, Department of Philosophy, Patna University was the Chief Guest. He talked on comparative description of soul between Indian and western ideology, emphasized on applied philosophy of Jainism.

Dr. Upendra Kumar, Member Secretary (I/c), Indian Council of Philosophical Research was the Guest of Honour. He talked on Importance of the Philosophy of Kant and two viewpoints of Jainism. Importance of nayas to know the nature of pure soul.

Dr. Shugan Chand Jain, Chairman, International School for Jain Studies delivered the welcome speech and talked on theme of workshop.

Prof. G. C. Tripathi, Director, BL Institute of Indology was the Chairperson and he talked about Vedantic and Upanishadic view of pure soul and it's comparison to pure soul of Jainism.

The session was compered and vote of thanks given by Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Joint Director, International School for Jain Studies.

- **Technical Session-1 (02:00PM - 05:30PM)**

- i. **02:00 PM – 03:30 PM:** Dr. Shugan Chand Jain in the first session talked on c rya Kundakunda, the Author of Samayas ra, Prevailing philosophical cum religious environment in India duirng his time; and his personal details (birth, family, time, names, his guru).
- ii. **04:00 PM – 05:30 PM:** Dr. Shugan C Jain continued with c rya Kundakunda's contribution to Jain philosophy and literature; impact on Jain and other Indian philosophers.

**Day-2. (Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

- **Technical Session-2 (09:00 AM - 12:30 PM)**

- i. **09:00 AM – 10:30 AM:** Prof. Veersagar Jain, Professor and Head, Dept. of Jaindarshan, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith in this session he talked on Style of presentation; the two viewpoints of Samayas ra.

ii. **11:00 AM – 12:30 PM:** Prof. Veersagar Jain in this session talked on Essence of Samayas ra particular on presentation of contents (chapters 1-5).

• **Technical Session-3 (02:00 PM – 05:30 PM)**

iii. **02:00 PM – 03:30 PM:** In this session Prof. Veersagar Jain talked on Essence of Samayas ra particularly chapters 6-10.

iv. **04:00 PM – 05:30 PM:** Prof. Rishabh Chandra Jain, Director, Research Institute of Prakrit, Jainology and ahimsa, Vaishali. He talked on Commentary literature and significant factors emphasized by different commentators.

**Day-3. (Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

• **Reading Session-1 (09:00 AM – 12:30 PM)**

v. **09:00 AM – 10:30 AM:** Prof. Veersagar Jain taught Verses: 1-20, Chapter-1, on J va – The Soul

vi. **11:00 AM – 12:30 PM:** Prof. Veersagar Jain taught Verses: 21-38, Chapter-1 on J va – The Soul.

• **Reading Session-2 (02:00 PM – 05:30 PM)**

vii. **02:00 PM – 03:30 PM:** Prof. Rishabh Chandra Jain taught verses 39 – 68, Chapter-2 on Aj va or The Non- Soul.

viii. **04:00 PM – 05:30 PM:** Prof. Jayanti Lal Jain, Director, Center of Philosophical Studies, Mangalayatan University delivered the last lecture of 3<sup>rd</sup> day. He taught verses: 69-100 from Chapter- 3: The doer and the deed.

**Day-4. (Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

• **Reading Session-3 (9:00 AM – 12:30 PM)**

ix. **09:00 AM – 10:30 AM:** Prof. Jayanti Lal Jain taught Verses 100-144, Chapter- 3: The doer and the deed particularly.

x. **11:00 AM – 12:30 PM:** Prof. Jayanti Lal Jain continues this session and talked Verses: 145-163, Chapter-4: Merit and Demerit particularly.

• **Reading Session-4 (02:00 PM – 05:30 PM)**

xi. **02:00 PM – 03:30 PM:** Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Joint Director, International School for Jain Studies talked on Chapter-5: Influx of Karmas Verses: 164-180.

xii. **04:00 PM – 05:30 PM:** Dr. Shrinetra Pandey delivered lecture on Chapter-6: Stoppage of Karma Verses: 181-192.

**Day-5. (Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

• **Reading Session-5 (09:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

xiii. **09:00 AM – 10:30 AM:** Prof. Jayanti Lal Jain start the 5<sup>th</sup> day session and delivered lecture on Chapter-7: Shedding of Karmas Verses: 193-236.

- xiv. **11:00 AM – 12:30 PM:** Prof. Phool Chand Jain “Premi” Ex Prof. & Head, Dept. of Jainology, S. S. University & Ex-Director, BL Institute of Indology delivered lecture on Chapter- 8: Bondage of Karmas Verses: 237-256.

• **Reading Session-6 (02:00 PM-5:30 PM)**

- xv. **02:00 PM – 03:30 PM:** Prof. Phool Chand Jain delivered lecture on Chapter- 8: Bondage of Karmas Verses: 257-287.
- xvi. **04:00 PM – 05:30 PM:** Dr. Priyadarshana Jain, Asst. Professor & Head (i/c), Department of Jainology, University of Madras delivered the lecture on Chapter-9: The Liberation Verses: 288-307.

**Day-6. (Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

• **Reading Session-7 (09:00 AM – 12:30 PM)**

- xvii. **09:00 AM – 10:30 AM:** Dr. Priyadarshana Jain delivered lecture on Chapter- 10: The all Pure knowledge Verses: 308- 335.
- xviii. **11:00 AM – 12:30 PM:** In this session Dr. Priyadarshana Jain continued to deliver lecture on Chapter- 10: The all Pure knowledge particularly Verses: 336- 362.

• **Reading Session-8 (02:00 PM – 05:30 PM)**

- xix. **02:00 PM – 03:30 PM:** Dr. Priyadarshana Jain delivered lecture on Verses: 363- 390 of Chapter- 10: The all Pure knowledge.
- xx. **04:00 PM – 05:30 PM:** The last session was taken by Dr. Priyadarshana Jain. In this session she delivered lecture on Verses: 391-415 from Chapter- 10: The all Pure knowledge.

**Day-7. (Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

• **Discussion Session (09:00 AM – 12:30 PM)**

- xxi. **09:00 AM – 12:30 PM:** In this session participants presented their learning on one of the ten specific topics identified by the organizers and answered queries from the participants and faculty members present (Dr Shugan C Jain and Dr Shrinetra Pandey).

• **Valedictory Program (02:00 PM – 03:00 PM)**

- Chief Guest: Prof. Ashok K Jain, Former head, Dept. of Jain Bauddh Darshan, BHU
- Chair: Dr. Upendra Kumar, Member Secretary (I/c), ICPR
- Welcome Speech: Dr. Shugan C Jain, Coordinator Workshop & Chairman, ISJS
- Compere and vote of thanks: Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Joint Director, ISJS

Dr. Shugan C Jain delivered the welcome speech Prof Ashok K Jain discussed Anekant, Naya and Nikshep as core of Jain epistemology. He further elaborated on the meaning of Samay and it's interpretation in Samayas ra. Dr. Upendra Kumar indicated the ultimate goal of Samayas ra as how to attain the pure soul? Certificates were distributed to participants at the end of program. Dr. Shrinetra Pandey compered and delivered the vote of thanks.

**Closure**

With the feedback from the expert faculty members and the participants, it is concluded that the workshop was a roaring success. Almost all attending he workshop as faculty, guests and participants thanked ISJS and ICPR to organize this amazing workshop and requested them to organize similar workshops more often. Everyone had all praise for the

facilities, food, lectures and the handout given to each participant consisting of a beautiful hand bag, two books on Samayas ra, pad and pen and a name tag to identify each participant. All special guests and resource persons were also presented with the hand bag, two books, pad and pen along with a memento for the seminar and angavastra. Dr Shrinetra Pandey and Mr Sushil Jana of ISJS deserve special mention as they tirelessly supported me for almost a month for mobilising and administering the workshop. Without their effort and support, this workshop would not have run so smoothly. I also thank Dr Ramesh Chandra Sinha Chairman ICPR, Dr Upendra Kumar Member ICPR, Manager Projects Dr Dubey and the entire staff of ICPR for extending their support as and when requested.t

Shugan C Jain  
Workshop Coordinator