



International School for Jain Studies

(A Division of Amar Prerana Trust)



ISJS on the move

Established in 2005 as a non-profit trust, International School for Jain Studies “ISJS” is the only institute in the world with the sole objective of promoting Academic Studies of Jainism in the universities globally. ISJS does this by inviting scholars of philosophy, religion, and allied subjects to India to provide them intensive, residential and experiential exposure to Jainism and encourage them to pursue higher research and teaching of the same in their universities. It has since trained more than 700 scholars and students from 18 countries and more than 40 universities in Jain studies and application of Jain ethics and values in today's life. The resonance created by ISJS programs has resulted in setting up Jain Centres in over 20 Universities of North America and many more to come. ISJS alumni are heading most of these centres established. Grasping the needs of this growing interest, emerging trends and sensibilities both in India and overseas in Jain Studies; ISJS took upon itself the task of enhancing its resources by merging its operations with the prestigious Amar Prerana Trust (APT) of Pune. Amar Prerana Trust of Dr. Abhay Firodia's family has superb training cum meditation facilities at Navalveerayatan near Pune, and an upcoming state of the art and largest Jain museum near Pune. The family also governs Sanmati Teerth Institute of Research in Prakrit languages and Jainology. ISJS looks towards being a deemed university/autonomous accredited institute of education and research in near future.



ISJS Classroom

Vision

ISJS shall be the Premier Institute and be a hub (aggregator/facilitator) **of first choice** to engage universities and scholars globally in collaborative research & education of Jain studies and their applicability to modern day life.

Mission

To develop creative and adaptive scholars, knowledge base and resource centre for Jain Studies who can address the needs of a rapidly changing world. Resources of Dr. Firodia family's APT and other trusts of shall be networked with a high speed and very good technology platform initially and extending to other selected education and research institutes globally.



Navalveerayatan

Areas of expertise to be developed

Enhance in-house expertise in philosophy (metaphysics, ethics, karma, knowledge and spiritual purification), languages (Prakrit, Hindi and Gujarati), Jain community/sociology studies, Jain antiquity and history, Jain art & architecture, Jain way of life and its applicability to modern day issues, commonality of Jain principles with scientific researches. ISJS intends to set up following centres of excellence:

- Centre for Philosophical (metaphysics, ethics, karma, knowledge and spiritual purification) studies.
- Centre for History and Archaeology studies.
- Centre of Jain Agamic languages such as Prakrit, Sanskrit, Hindi and Gujarati (applicable to study Jain literature) with Sanmati Teerth.
- Centre for Jain Art and Architecture.
- Centre for Sociological studies.
- Centre to enhance wellness and social harmony (way of life today).
- Centre of Jainism and Science studies.
- Publication Division: Quarterly Research Journal, Newsletter and Books.

Strategy to expand ISJS activities

- Network various divisions of APT and other Dr. Firodia's trusts, of which ISJS is one.
- Recruit Dean/ Chief of ISJS, various centre heads and research associates for each centre.

- Invite reputed scholars with established expertise in one of the centres as retained consultants to work together with ISJS on education and research projects.
- Invite reputed Universities in India and abroad to partner with ISJS for the development of one of the centres in undertaking education and research projects.

Developing firm linkages

- a. With three universities overseas and three universities in India (if possible, on exclusive bases) and others on need basis. These universities will work/support for joint research at their place as well as ISJS India and conduct joint education and seminars projects. One university in India and one in USA will be selected which will accredit the programs offered by ISJS for transfer of credits to participant's university programs.
- b. Developing linkages with Indian and Overseas experts to work on ISJS projects/programs on need and paid basis.

Implementation/Action plan

Setting up in-house administration system of ISJS: Formalize agreements, facilities and manpower resources in APT-ISJS for the following activities:

- a. Internal i.e. different units of Dr. Firodia family's APT and other trust.
- b. Update website and make it dynamic, linking APT and partners activities.
- c. Identify six universities in India and six overseas to be contacted and start the dialogue to select and firm up agreements for cooperation.
- d. Identify ten to fifteen scholars in India and Overseas each for association with ISJS for use of their services.
- e. Appoint a manager to lead the implementation.

Current and proposed offerings

- a. Education
 - Current summer and winter schools offered. Online version of winter school in winter 2020.
 - Year Long fellowships (3-4) to learn Prakrit in the summer 2021 in association with Mahavir Vision Inc.

b. Research

- Host visiting overseas scholars at Pune to undertake research sponsored by various agencies like Fulbright, AIIS and universities.
- Invite two scholars to India from partner overseas universities to ISJS for 3 to 6 months for research work.
- Send two ISJS scholars to partner overseas universities for 3 to 6 months for undertaking research projects.
- Donate high-level Jain books and scriptures to some University libraries in USA and India.
- Organize an annual convention of Jain Scholars in Pune (December 2021) in association with upcoming Jain museum of Dr. Firodia's family.
- Update research journal of ISJS to be a peer reviewed international journal.
- Organize an international seminar at Pune (subject to be decided).
- Organize two Webinars during the year.



Group Photo of the Seminar on Traces of Shraman Tradition
at Navalveerayatan

For more details visit www.isjs.in

For queries please contact:

President, ISJS



International School for Jain Studies

Firodia Hostel, 844, BMCC Road

Shivaji Nagar, Pune - 411 004 (Mah.), INDIA

E-mail: isjs.india@gmail.com ; Web: www.isjs.in