

**Celebrating Recent Initiatives of International School for Jain Studies (ISJS) to
Promote Academic Studies of Jainism Globally at IIC Annexe**

New Delhi, December 10, 2023

International School for Jain Studies (ISJS), dedicated to fostering global understanding, plays a pivotal role in promoting Jain studies by facilitating scholarly research, education, and dialogue on the rich heritage of Jainism. The purpose of this event was to celebrate the recent initiative of the ISJS aimed at promoting academic studies of Jainism on a global scale. The



gathering, held at India International Centre, Annexe Building, New Delhi on December 10, 2023, served as a platform to acknowledge and

showcase ISJS's commitment to fostering Jain values in global academia. The program included various segments, such as awards, fellowships, and speeches, to recognize and honour individuals contributing to the advancement of Jain studies. Additionally, the event provided an opportunity for networking and collaboration among scholars, educators, and distinguished guests present.

The evening commenced with a warm get-together and high tea at 6:00 PM, setting a convivial atmosphere for the festivities. Prof. Vibha Jain, a distinguished academician, assumed the role of the compere, infusing the event with her insightful comments.

The serene venue resonated with the harmonious recitation of the Namokar Mantra and selected verses of Bhaktamarstotra by the girls of LD Jain School, Delhi an institution adopted by ISJS for instilling Jain values. Their performance highlighted the integration of music and dance as a regular subject in the school curriculum.



The event saw the presence of distinguished guests, including Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra (Member Secretary, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India), and Prof. Christopher K. Chapple (Director, MA in Yoga Studies,

Loyola Marymount University, California, USA). Dr. Shugan C Jain, Founder and President of ISJS extended a warm welcome, providing an overview of ISJS and its significant strides in promoting Jain education globally.

A special segment honoured educationists associated with implementing ISJS programs in K-12 Jain schools. Mr. Darshan K Jain, Ms. Anupma Bhardwaj, Ms. Seema Bhardwaj, and Dr. Nirmal K Jain were recognized for their contributions, each sharing insights into their schools' achievements and unique teaching methodologies.

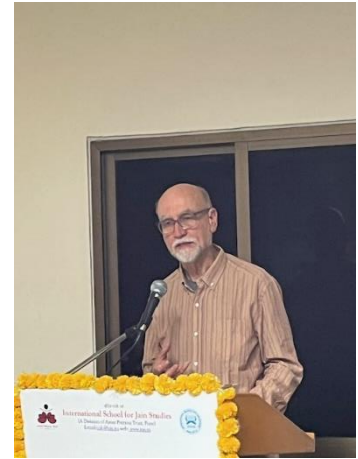


Dr. Shrinetra Pandey (Acting Director, ISJS) shed light on the Bhagwan Naminath Fellowship program, followed by an award ceremony where Prof. Chapple and Prof. Mishra presented certificates. Recipients, including Mr. Shailesh Shinde, Ms. Hansi Surana, Mr. Sulabh Jain, Mr. Rohit Chakote, and Ms. Charul Jain, expressed gratitude for their invaluable experience.

The prestigious Bhagwan Kunthunath Award recognized scholars for outstanding books and research papers on Jainism. Dr. Tine Vekemans (Ghent University, Belgium) received the Best Book award sponsored by Dr Sulekh Jain, for "Digital and Diaspora: Intertwined Frontiers of Contemporary Jainism." Joint winners of the Best Research Paper award, sponsored by Dr Shugan Jain, Dr. Anil Mundra (Rutgers University, USA) and Ms. Nataliia Pavlyk (Head and founder, The Oriental Studies Circle, Ukraine), were acknowledged for their exceptional contributions. All three awardees expressed their gratitude towards the awards.

Dr. Jasvant Modi (USA), a key figure behind various Jainism-focused projects, addressed the audience and inspired the youngsters for further quality research work. Dr. Sulekh C. Jain (USA) extended heartfelt congratulations to the deserving awardees, acknowledging their exceptional achievements with admiration and praise.

Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra, the Guest of Honor, emphasised the importance of academic studies in Jainism and expressed eagerness for future collaborations with ISJS to foster continued partnerships. Prof. Christopher Chapple lavishly commended the remarkable success of Bhagwan Naminath Fellowship program and expressed profound admiration for the impactful work of ISJS.



The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, expressing gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and contributors for making the ISJS a resounding success. The evening exemplified the commitment to nurturing Jain values and fostering academic excellence globally.