



A H I M S A C E N T E R
NONVIOLENCE IN THOUGHT AND ACTION

College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA 91768

An International Symposium

Ahimsa and Aparigraha in Contemporary Contexts

Sunday, July 3, 2005; 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. • Winchester Room, Westin Santa Clara, CA

Co-sponsored by JAINA

Ahimsa Center at Cal Poly Pomona presents an international symposium featuring scholars and participants from all around the world. The purpose of this symposium is to examine the multiple dimensions of ahimsa (nonviolence) and aparigraha (nonpossession or simplicity) in Jainism, and explore their practical significance in the contemporary social, political and ecological contexts—especially, in addressing the problems of violence, exploitation, consumerism and poverty in our world.

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

- 8:30 – 8:40 a.m. Welcome Remarks
Anop Vora, President, JAINA
- 8:40 – 8:50 a.m. Felicitation and Recognition
Honoring Pratap Bhogilal for his leadership in promoting Jain Studies
Prem Jain, Cisco Systems
- 8:50 – 9:00 a.m. Jain Studies: A Vision for the Future
Pratap Bhogilal, Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology, India
- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Introduction to the Symposium
Tara Sethia, Ahimsa Center, Cal Poly Pomona
- 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. **Session 1: Ahimsa and Aparigraha in Jain Art**
Moderator: *Tara Sethia*
Picturing Virtues: Ahimsa and Aparigraha in Art
Robert J. Del Bontà, Independent Scholar and Art Historian, San Francisco
- 10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. **Session 2: Ahimsa and Aparigraha Jain Literature**
Moderator: *Jasvant Modi, Ajit Healthcare Inc., Los Angeles*
Supatra and Kupatra: Jain Debates on Fruits of Giving
Peter Flugel, University of London, UK
Jain Discourses of Ahimsa, Aparigraha and Power: Sadhvis, Feminism and Body
Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa, Canada
- 11:45 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**

- 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. **Session 3: Reflections on Aparigraha and Ahimsa in Jain Tradition**
Moderator: *Bipin Shah, INC3 Ventures, Santa Clara, CA*
 Aparigraha, Consumerism and the Environment
Surendra Bothara, Prakrit Bharti Academy, Jaipur, India
 Enough is Enough! Conquering Parigraha
Kristi Wiley, University of California, Berkeley
- 2:15 – 2:30 p.m. **Break**
- 2:30 – 3:45 p.m. **Session 4: Re-enacting Aparigraha and Ahimsa in the Contexts of Globalization**
Moderator: *Hema Pokharna, University of Chicago*
 Ecological Nonviolence: A Global Assessment
Michael Tobias, Independent Scholar, Film Producer, Los Angeles
 Ahimsa and Health Care Ethics
Cromwell Crawford, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- 3:45 – 4:15 p.m. **Break**
- 4:15 – 6:15 p.m. **Session 5: Ahimsa, Aparigraha and the World of Business**
Moderator: *Parveen Jain, McAfee, Inc.*
 The Value of Ahimsa in Corporate Culture
Jagdish N. Sheth, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
 Ahimsa and Business Leadership
Shailesh J. Mehta, Granite Hill Capital Ventures
 Business Ethics and Social Responsibility: Learning from Gandhi
Nirmal Sethia, Cal Poly Pomona
 Pursuit of Ahimsa: Lessons from the Business World
Navindra Jain, Los Gatos, CA
- 6:15 p.m. Concluding Remarks
Tara Sethia
- 6:30 p.m. **Dinner**
- 7:30 p.m. **Evening Entertainment Program: Anuradha Paudwal and Manhar Udhas**

ABOUT SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Pratap Bhogilal is a prominent industrialist and Chairman of Batliboi Ltd. India. He is a trustee of many institutions including Jain Academy Trust, Mumbai and Vishvakalyan Atma Jain Foundation, Delhi. He is the founder and Chairman of Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology, and Atma Vallabh Jain Smarak Shikshan, Delhi. He has played a pioneering role in the promotion of Jain scholarship at various institutions in India, Europe and the United States.

Surendra Bothara is an independent Jain scholar and managing editor at the Prakrit Bharti Academy in Jaipur. He has authored more than a dozen books, including *Ahimsa: The Science of Peace* (2004). His research and scholarship includes extensive translations of Agamas and Agamic literature in both English and Hindi.

Cromwell Crawford is professor of Religion at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He specializes in the Hindu ethics and philosophy. His latest publication is *Hindu Bioethics For the Twenty-First Century*. He serves on the Advisory Boards of *Jain Spirit* and *Ahimsa Times*, and is the Director of a recently launched program in Jain Studies in North America.

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS (continued)

Robert J. Del Bontà received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He has taught courses in South and Southeast Asian art and curated many shows at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. In the past, he has curated major exhibitions of Indian painting for the Berkeley Art Museum and Indian art for the University of Michigan Museum of Art. His publications include articles on Indian and Jain art.

Peter Fluegel is the Chair of the Centre of Jaina Studies at the University of London. His recent findings on Jain relic worship represent a major break-through in the study of Jainism. He has published several scholarly works in his field. He is the editor of the *Jaina Studies Series* (Routledge Curzon) and co-editor of the volume, *Asceticism and Power in South and Southeast Asia* (forthcoming).

Navindra Jain received his Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh. In 1982 he co-founded Excelan—a pioneer networking company where he served as VP of Engineering. In 1989 the company was acquired by Novell where he served as VP and GM of the Internetworking and Network Management Divisions. He retired in 1993 to raise his daughter and pursue a quiet personal quest for spiritual growth.

Parveen K Jain received his Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He is Executive Vice President of Word Wide Marketing and Corporate Strategy at McAfee, Inc. Dr. Jain led JCNC's project team to design and construct a Jain temple—the first one outside India with *pran-prathishthit Shwetambar* and *Digambar* images—in Milpitas California. He is a past President and the current Chairman of JCNC.

Prem Jain is a Senior Vice President and General Manager, Cisco Systems. Jain was the Founder President of the Jain Center of Northern California, the president of Jain Milan, Vice President of JAINA, and the convener of the 1991 JAINA convention at Stanford, California. Jain is also active in volunteer work and fundraising for the homeless and in helping San Francisco Bay Area schools. He is a recipient of many awards, honors and patents.

Shailesh J. Mehta received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Case Western Reserve University. He is the President of Granite Hill Capital Ventures, LLC—an investment and advisory partnership. Previously, he was the Chairman of the Board and CEO of Providian Financial Corporation. Dr. Mehta is a Trustee of the California State University. He is well-known for his philanthropic activities and is a recipient of numerous awards and honors.

Jasvant Modi is the President of Ajit Health Care Inc. Dr. Modi is in the practice of internal medicine and gastroenterology in the city of Los Angeles, California. He is currently a Public Relations Officer for the Jain Center of Southern California where he has previously served in other roles. He is also involved serving the community and in raising funds for the Jain Center and other charities.

Hema Pokharna is a researcher at the University of Chicago, and director of Journeys of Life—an independent program aimed at promoting health and disease prevention. She has published in science, humanistic and religious journals. She was featured in newspapers and interviewed on radio. She is currently serving on the Board of the Parliament of World's religions.

Nirmal Sethia received his Ph.D. from IIT-Bombay. He is Professor of Management at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. His scholarly interests cover the areas of creativity, innovation and design. More recently, he has been exploring the relevance of Gandhian thought to contemporary business practices, especially in the contexts of social entrepreneurship and sustainable development.

Tara Sethia received her Ph.D. from UCLA. She is Professor of History and Director of Ahimsa Center at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona. Her course offerings include History of India, Gandhi, Women in Asia, and Nonviolence in World History. She is the editor of *Ahimsa, Anekanta and Jainism* (2004) and is currently working on a book on *Gandhi*.

Bipin Shah is the President and CEO of Kovair, and Co-Founder and Managing General Partner of INC3 Ventures. Mr. Shah is the immediate past President of the Jain Center of Northern California and one of the Founding Charter Members of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE). Currently, he is serving on the JAINA and JCNC Boards of Directors, and many advisory boards including that of Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation.

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS (continued)

Jagdish N. Sheth is the Charles H. Kellstadt Professor of Marketing in the Goizueta Business School and the founder of the Center for Relationship Marketing at Emory University. Dr. Sheth is internationally known for his scholarships in Marketing, Customer Satisfaction, Global Competition, and Strategic Thinking. Professor Sheth has authored numerous books and articles in his field. He is a recipient of many distinctions, honors and awards.

Michael Tobias is a global ecologist with research in over 50 countries. He is the author of some 30 books, including *Life Force*, *The World of Jainism*. Dr. Tobias has directed and produced more than 100 films, including *Ahimsa*. He has taught at Dartmouth, University of New Mexico, and at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Anne Vallely received her Ph.D. from University of Toronto. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Ottawa. Her main research interests are in the areas of Jainism, gender, human-nonhuman relations, and the anthropology of religion. Her scholarship on Jainism includes many articles and a book, *Transcendent: An Ethnography of a Jain Ascetic Community* (2002).

Anop R. Vora is the current President of Federation of Jain Associations of North America (JAINA). He has published numerous articles on various topics including Anger, Forgiveness, What Religion should mean to us, Jain Model of learning process, Theory of Karma, and Liberation through Meditation. His main area of interest is meditation.

Kristi L. Wiley received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, where she teaches courses such as Religions of India and Religion and Ecology. Recently, she developed a course on Jainism. She is the author of the *Historical Dictionary of Jainism* (2004), and has published scholarly essays and articles in books and journals.