## Announcing JAINA Convention 2021, July 1-6, 2021

"JAINISM: A Resilient Path to Peace"

The Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAI-NA) will be celebrating its 21st Convention on the Fourth of July weekend — from July 1st to 6th, 2021. Every two years, this premier event brings together members of the Jain Community from across the world. This year, the virtual event is planned to be a global event and is expected to attract an even larger audience from the USA, Canada, India, UK, Australia, UAE and many other countries.

In face of all the turbulence throughout the world in the last year, it is paramount for us to be vigilant, compassionate, tolerant and to "keep the faith". Jainism, one of the ancient minority religions, has thrived worse than the pandemic based on its wisdom of Maitri (Amity), interdependence and, honoring and respecting life at any cost. The Convention will showcase our firm belief that spirituality enables us to sustain our sense of self and purpose through beliefs, principles, values, and morals. Hence the theme for this year's Convention is "JAINISM: A Resilient Path to Peace".

Convention Convener and First Vice President of JAINA, Mr. Haresh Shah of Delaware. proudly shared that the attendee response has been overwhelming with more than 5,000 registrations as of this writing. Convention Co-Convener and JAINA President Mr. Mahesh Wadher of Los Angeles expressed his gratitude for 100+ volunteers across 23 teams working day and night as ONE TEAM to make this convention the most memorable ever. Convention Co-Convener Mr. Bindesh Shah mentioned that the Convention will feature a state-of-the-art, user-friendly, and interactive conference platform with many features such as an online Main Hall, 6 Breakout Rooms, 4 Competition Rooms, and an Exhibition Hall.

Enlightening discourses, discussion tracks and activities planned at this Convention will offer attendees a deeper understanding of Jain principles and values while also helping the community with a roadmap to bounce back. Youth participation, through JAINA's affiliate organizations, Young Jains of America (YJA), Young Jain Professionals (YJP), as well as Jain Connect will be strongly promoted and encouraged. There will be focused programs for all age groups: children (ages 5-12), youth (ages 13-20), Jain Networking Forum (ages 21-29), and adults.

Other featured events include the popular Jain Academic Bowl (JAB), a jeopardy style vocabulary game in which young Jains compete with other teams, Jains Got Talent (JGT) and Virtual Tirthdham Darshan – A narrated Tirth Yatra of 12 major Jain Tirth of India broadcast live.

Public Relations and Media Committee Chair Mr. Vipul Shah of Chicago proudly confirmed that spiritual dignitaries such as Acharya Ratnasundersuri Maharaj Saheb, Acharya Shri Mahashramanji, Rashtrasant Gurudev Shree Namramuni, Pramansagarji Maharaj, Sadhvi Charitraarth Prabhaji and many others will enlighten us with their wisdom during the Convention. Acharya Lokesh Muniji, Acharya Chandanaji, and Bhattarak Charukeertiji will bless the Convention with their Ashirwad speeches. While Gurudevshri Rakeshbhai Jhaveri will give the keynote



address, other featured speakers include Shri Deepakbhai Desai, Shri Gyanvatsal Swami, Brahma Kumari Sister Shivani and Dr. Veerendra Heggade. The line-up of other prominent and inspirational speakers includes Dr. Christopher Miller, Dr. Steven Southwick, Rahul Kapoor Jain, Motilal Oswal, Dr. Kumarpal Desai, Dr. Bipin Doshi and Dr. Bimal Chajjer.

The daily sessions and discussions will be well-complemented by refreshing Cultural Programs in the evening including Jain Drama Rang De Sanskar - a high caliber humorous Hindi drama with famous actors & an immense cast, Jains Got Talent (JGT), and entertaining cultural performances from across the world. A special Bollywood Musical "Sunheri Yaadein" will take us back 40 years of melodious music to celebrate 40 Years Anniversary of JAINA.

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invitation to all who aspire for a peaceful resilient recovery from the pandemic and to reweave the delicate fabric of humanity. Since opening the registration on January 9th, over 5,000 attendees have already registered for the convention. Come join us, with our collective wisdom we will dream and create a nonviolent future of Love, Peace and Collaboration. Your presence and participation will help us ground in interconnection and solidarity and walk with you on the resilient path to peace we build together.

For additional information about this convention and to register, please visit us online at: www.jainaconvention.org

For Further Information, please contact: Mr. Vipul Shah, Chair of Public Relations and Press-Media Committee of JAINA Convention 2021 or its Co-Chair, Mr. Rahul Jain at pr@jaina.org.

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