

INTRODUCTION TO JAIN RELIGION

(CLASS - FIRST)

Translated by :

JASRAJ CHOPRA
(Retd. Justice, Rajasthan Highcourt)

Publisher :

**AKHIL BHARTIYA SHRI JAIN RATNA
AADHYATMIK SHIKSHAN BOARD**
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Publisher's Note

In the glorious tradition of 'Ratnavansh' all the Acharyas beginning from its originator revered Shri Kushal Chand Ji Maharaj down to the godly Acharya Shri Hastimalji Maharaj Sahib were constantly vigilant (Apramatt) ascetics. Acharya Shri Hastimalji Maharaj was a confluence of knowledge and action. He blew a bugle of Samayik and Swadhyaya (Self Study) to every nook and corner of the country.

Following the footprints of reverend Acharya Shri Hastimalji Maharaj his disciple and successor highly revered & erudite scholar and master of religious sermons and present head of this Jain Sect Ratnavansh, 1008 Acharyapravar Shri Hirachandraji Maharaj, Upadhyayji Shri Manchandraji Maharaj and all other Saints and Mahasatis are engaged in effectively inspiring the Jain followers on these two aspects. The result of these efforts is before us. Today all religious entities (Sanghas) as religious groups (Samaj) have not only become enthusiastic and have developed a liking but are engaged in a very healthy competition to acquire knowledge.

It is a pity that the present day world, is full of materialistic attitude. The scientific inventions have made the men highly easy going and slave of these material and scientifically acquired facilities and conveniences. It is because of this that he lacks the spirit of such moral and ethical values as service,

dedication, simplicity, devotion/ reverence/veneration, equanimity, straight forwardness, tolerance/ forebearance, co-operation and love for his own religious brothers. These moral and ethical values in the society are on a decline. This decline can only be arrested and made good by acquiring proper knowledge and adhering to a correct and proper code of conduct.

After examining and analysing the various texts adhered by various institutions, this Board has adopted a text consisting of a twelve - classes course. This course has been simplified with the avowed object that more and more brothers and sisters may take interest in these religious courses.

The Board has prepared and published books up to class 12th in Hindi. We are happy that the courses have been welcomed and appreciated by all. Our brothers and sisters living in southern part of India and in foreign countries are having demand of English editions of these courses. It is a matter of pleasure that we are introducing the third English edition of class first (Jain Dharm Parichaya).

Honourable Shri Jasraj Ji Chopra, Retd. Justice of Rajasthan High Court and erudite scholar has taken pains in providing this translation of the book one. We are heartily grateful to him.

We are also thankful to Shri Dalichandji Kawad Punamali (Chennai) and his family and specially to Shri Ashokji Kawad for providing

financial assistance for the publication of this book. Shri Kawad's entire family is greater follower of Acharya Praver Shri Heerachandraji Maharaj Shaib and Upadhaya Pravar Shri Manchandraji Maharaj Shaib.

We are also thankful to Shri Ashulalji Sancheti, Smt. Vineeta Bhupeshji Mehta, Shri Ashokji Kawad, Chennai, President, Akhil Bhartiya Shri Jain Ratna Yuvak Parishad for their kind persual and valuable suggestion for betterment of the book.

We hope that this course-based book will prove useful and enrich religious knowledge of the persons who will read the book.

The motto of the Adhyatmika Shikshan Board is to reach everybody to quench the thirst of acquiring religious and spritual knowledge, and we feel pleasure to say that we are proceeding to fulfil the motto.

Humbly - Yours

Smt. Sushila Bohra
Convenor

Rajesh Karnawat
Secretary

**Akhil Bhartiya Shri Jain Ratna
Aadhyatmik Shikshan Board**

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