

AAHWAN

MAY 2013, MAHAVIR JAYANTI SPECIAL

BHAGWAN MAHAVIR JAYANTI AT RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN **President of India inaugurates Seminar ‘Solution of Global Challenges through Mahavir’s Philosophy’**



Honourable President of India Shri Pranab Mukerjee inaugurated the seminar on ‘Solution of Global Challenges through Mahavira’s Philosophy’ on the occasion of Bhagwan Mahavir Jayanti in Rastrapati Bhawan auditorium organised by Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti . The seminar was organised in the presence of Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni, Founder President Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti and Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal, Coal Minister Government of India, Sh. Abhay Kumar Jain, President, Bhagwan Mahavir Jayanti Reception Committee, Sh. D.K. Jain, Convener Bhagwan Mahavir Jayanti Reception Committee, Sh. Pradeep Jain, Chairman Bhagwan Mahavir Jayanti Reception Committee, Sh. Subhash Oswal, Senior Vice President All India Jain conference, religious leaders of different religions, political leaders of different parties and distinguished people from different walks of life.

President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee gave his heartiest felicitations to all fellow Jains all over the world on this auspicious birth day celebration of Lord Mahavira. Mahavira was the 24th tirthankar of Jains who was born with riches but adopted renunciation to attain Bliss. He said that Bhagwan Mahavir teachings are as relevant now to address today’s global problems like rampant erosion of our environment and natural resources due to aggressive consumption based development, violence in the form of terrorism and wars; religious fanaticism, political ideologies, exploitation and corruption all around. Shri Pranab Mukerjee congratulated Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti for organising seminar on ‘Solution of Global Challenges through Mahavira’s Philosophy’ on the auspicious occasion of Bhagwan Mahavir birth anniversary.

President further said that the three A’s of Ahimsa, anekanta and Aparigraha of Lord Mahavira’ philosophy can provide answers to many modern day problems. Shri Mukerjee appreciated that under the guidance of Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni, Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti is working towards building a society free from violence, terrorism, exploitation, poverty, communalism, caste distinctions and other social ills.



AHIMSA, ANEKANTA AND APARIGRAHA CAN PROVIDE ANSWERS TO MANY MODERN DAY PROBLEMS – ACHARYA LOKESH



Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni in the seminar said that presently the whole world is affected by the problem of violence and terrorism but violence and terrorism is not the solution to any problem. Violence gives rise to counter-violence. Bhagwan Mahavir Philosophy of *Ahimsa* (non-violence) and *Aprigraha* (limiting possessions) is sustainable solution for violence and terrorism. Presently there is need for training of non-violence, a need to bring alive the glorious form of non-violence so that incidents like Boston, Mumbai, 9/11 can be stopped. He further said that the whole world is concern with the problem of Global Warming, increasing temperature of the earth. Bhagwan Mahavir 2600 years back said that do not use electricity, water, vegetation, minerals etc limitlessly. Resources are limited, wishes are infinite, unlimited expectations cannot be fulfilled with limited resources.

Appreciating Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal, Coal Minister Government of India said that today all Jains practice and follow the path shown by Bhagwan Mahavir. The results are obvious even after 2600 years of birth that even today Jains, though a small minority, are the most peaceful, non-violent, educated, economically well off community who are in the fore-front to share their wealth with the society in the form of over 5000 schools and colleges, 1000s of hospitals and dispensaries, orphanages and homes for the destitute, objects of art and architecture in the form of iconography, temples and vast corpus of literature in almost all languages of India.

The seminar began with National Anthem and Manglacharan. Welcome speech was given by Shri Abhay Kumar Jain, vote of thanks proposed by Shri D.K. Jain and program was conducted by Mrs. Madhu Jain. Abhar Kumar Jain, D.K. Jain and Pradeep Jain facilitated The President with shawl, garland and patka. Senior leaders of all Jain Sects Digamber, Swetamber, Murtipujak, Sthanakwasi and Terapanthi from different parts of country were present in the seminar.



EXTRACTS FROM SPEECH BY PRESIDENT OF INDIA



I am indeed happy to join you for the seminar titled, “Solution of Global Challenges through Mahavira Philosophy”, being held a few days prior to the Mahavir Jayanti. I take this opportunity to extend my warm greetings to all of you.

I congratulate the Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati for organizing this seminar on a topic of great relevance to contemporary times. At a time when the world is faced with multiple challenges and we are seeking ways and means to overcome them, the philosophy and teachings enunciated by Bhagwan Mahavira holds great significance. This is a time to bring his message and teachings to the forefront of our approach in dealing with today’s problems.

The universal truth of Bhagwan Mahavira’s philosophy and teaching make them equally applicable to the modern world. For contemporary problems like erosion of environment and natural resources, violence through war and terrorism, religious intolerance, and economic exploitation of poor, answers could be found in his teachings.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the deterioration of environment and depletion of natural resources has engaged the attention of the world today. Bhagwan Mahavira’s doctrines of Shatjivanikay and Ahimsa are a meaningful approach to address this growing crisis. Shatjivanikay denotes living beings as having six types of body formation comprising the mobile living being that has 2 to 5 senses, and the living beings with one sense that are water, earth, air, fire and plant. The practice of ahimsa should be towards all living beings and not just human beings alone.

Bhagwan Mahavira’s teachings are in consonance with the need to mitigate economic disparity. He preached that both non-availability and excess availability are dangerous. The concentration of wealth in the hands of a few is one of the causes for growing intolerance today.

The three A’s of Ahimsa, Anekanta and Aparigraha of Bhagwan Mahavira’s philosophy can provide answers to many modern day problems. I am delighted to know that under the guidance of Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni, Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati is working towards building a society free from violence, terrorism, exploitation, poverty, communalism, caste distinctions, and other social ills. I am happy to note that for his untiring efforts, Acharyaji has been honoured by the Government with the National Communal Harmony Award, 2010.

I am confident that the Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati will continue to work towards social progress in the country. I wish the organization all success. I once again wish all my Jain brothers and sisters on this auspicious occasion.



On the occasion of **Bhagwan Mahavir Jayanti**
Seminar on

'Solution of Global Challenges through Mahavir's Philosophy'

Inaugurated by :

Shri Pranab Mukherjee President of India

In Presence of :

Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni Founder - Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati

Shri Sriprakash Jaisankar Minister of Coal

on Monday, 21st May 2013

New Delhi

at



Shri Pranab Mukherjee

In Presence of

Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni

Shri Sriprakash Jaisankar

on Monday, 21st May 2013

at

at **Patil Bhawan**

Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati



