

## Afterword

### ACHARYA SHRI VIDYASAGARJI MAHARAJ

As we all are aware that the Jain religion is crossing its boundaries from National to International; International to Universal—steadily and with fast pace. It is predicted that the celestial changes will bring many and complete changes as well transformations by 2012.

It is very relevant at this juncture that Jain religion must be brought to create awareness in Universe for teaching of Digamber Jain Acharyas for accepting the changed world during this transformation. The Jain religion being the one which propagates total NON VIOLENCE. In this context the teachings, doctrines and lives of Jain munis should be learned to adopt for peace and culture.

May I present before you the tale of a Jain Muni Acharya Shri Vidya Sagarji Maharaj?

Dik means Dishas or Directions and Ambar means Akash or Sky i.e. Digambar .It is firm belief that a human being can survive and live in the same condition by wearing the clothes of sky and can travel in all directions as he came to this world in naked form. Same way the Acharyas stay naked even in scorching heat or bitter cold or any other adverse conditions. They live with full detachment and follow the path of Non violence. The Acharyas do not travel during Chaturmas that is the 4 months which begin just before rainy season they are bathed in the natural rain water. They travel after Chaturmas for attaining further knowledge and address people to have faith and walk on path of Nonviolence.

After taking the Diksha i.e. taking an oath to follow Jain doctorines the Acharyas have to adopt and follow 28 qualities and rules up to death. The toughest of all to remain naked all over the life without lust, creed and free from all attachments.

Acharya Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj has devoted all his life to this religious cause. He has reestablished faith, reconstructed and relocated many Jain temples. His immense efforts are continues. As mentioned before the Jain Acharyas do not travel during Chaturmas or 4 months; let me brief you all that they go to 50 to 60 such Jain destinations from South to North and West to East after rainy season. Rarely the groups of Acharyas meet at some or the other destinations. Around 200 highly placed officials and big personalities have walked on the footsteps of Acharya Vidyasagarji Maharaj and devoted their lives for the cause of Nonviolence.



Dr Ms Manju Jain

Acharya Vidyasagarji Maharaj was born to Jain religious couple on 10th October 1946 in Karnataka. His father Shri Manasapaji had taken Jain Sanyas i.e. renunciation from worldly and family life. Later he was known as Mallisagarji Maharaj. His mother also followed same principles and blessed with Diksha adopted renunciated life and was known as Samayavatiji. His two younger brothers Shri Samaysagarji and Shri Yogsagarji Maharaj also embarrassed the Jain Munis lives.

At an age of 22 years only Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj adopted Brahmacharya i.e. life without marriage and physical attachment to the other sex. In the year 1972 he was blessed with Diksha on 22nd November by Acharya Shri Gyansagarji Maharaj. This is a state very difficult to achieve. After this Diksha procedure Acharya is supposed to take out his hair with his own hands known as KESH LOCHAN. This is supposed to be an examination of the patience, courage and endurance for the path that he has to adopt. The 28 basic rules to be followed have been followed strictly by Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj. May I repeat here that the child is born without clothes and without Vikaras or negativities? Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj thus is living example of staying naked to win over all negativities adopting the path of nonviolence and all detachments. He lives a balanced life. He takes his food in his own hands and eats it in a standing posture. Only once in a day. He also takes water at the same time once in a day. He eats food without salt and sugar. If there is a hair or small stone in the food he will stop eating the food. This keeps his body in perfect shape and balance.

Brahmachari Pankaj Bhैया from Nagpur says— Acharya Vidyasagarji Maharaj eats only lentils i.e. Dal and vegetables. He has won all over tastes by not taking salt and sugar in the food. Whatever we say about him is less and lesser as his personality cannot be matched. He is the mine of many more qualities beyond imagination. He is one of the best orators and he has power to satisfy the questions coming in the minds of people by quoting scriptures, giving examples from routine lives and scientifically proving them.

Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj has propagated Non violence by saying to communities to stop animal killings. Cow killing especially must be stopped. Pankaj Bhैया gives an example by saying - Once two eminent judges were listening to his discourse and they asked the evidence for non killing of animals and Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj immediately quoted a shloka from Shakuntal a Sanskrit scripture---“Anagatin pratihrtavyam” which means -DO NOT KILL THE INNOCENTS. Spend your life in prayers.

Shri Vidyasagarji deals many social issues in his discourses. He is against the female foeticide.

He delivers — we should not kill a female child in the womb of the mother. She may become Lakshmi Rani, Sita Rani or she may give birth to a saint. She may be a producer of THIRTHANKAR who is the highest saint in Jain religion. We are going ahead in Technology and newer methods, adopting many changes but we are leaving the Indian culture and values. We are going backwards in our religion. This may adversely affect. The Vaidya shalas means the medicine centers are becoming Vadha shalas means the Butcheries.

Pankaj Bhaiya Finally adds — Vidyasagarji's principle of Live and let live is important. We should live for the cause of Human Welfare and follow the trend of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. THE EARTH IS THE FAMILY. His literary contributions are amazing specially MUKHMATI on which 400 students have accomplished PhD and is published in various languages.

Millions of Vandanas to Acharya Shri Vidyasagarji Maharaj.



The holiness of the holy prayers as invoked by  
108 Acharya Vidyasagar Sangh at Parvarpura Temple, Nagpur





**A Noble Project :** Dayoday Gaushala protecting 30,000 cows from being slaughtered all over India

**A very dear project**  
of Acharyashri Vidyasagar-ji

आचार्य श्री 108 विद्यासागर जी महाराज के चरणों में  
गुजरात के माननीय मुख्यमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का एक पत्र





*On Independence Day 15 August 2013  
Ramtek, Nagpur  
State - Maharashtra*





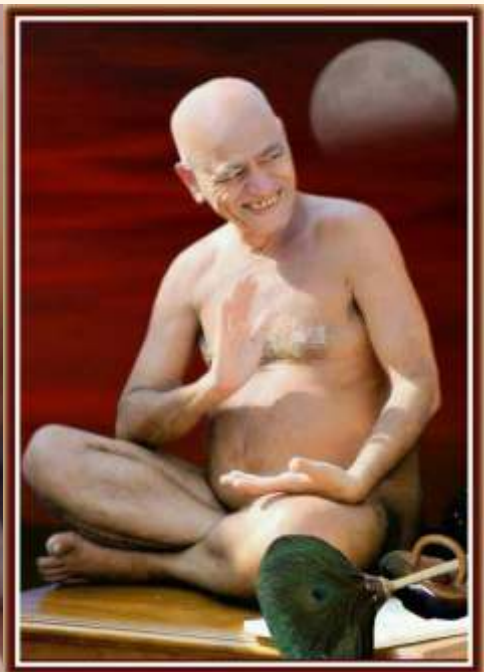
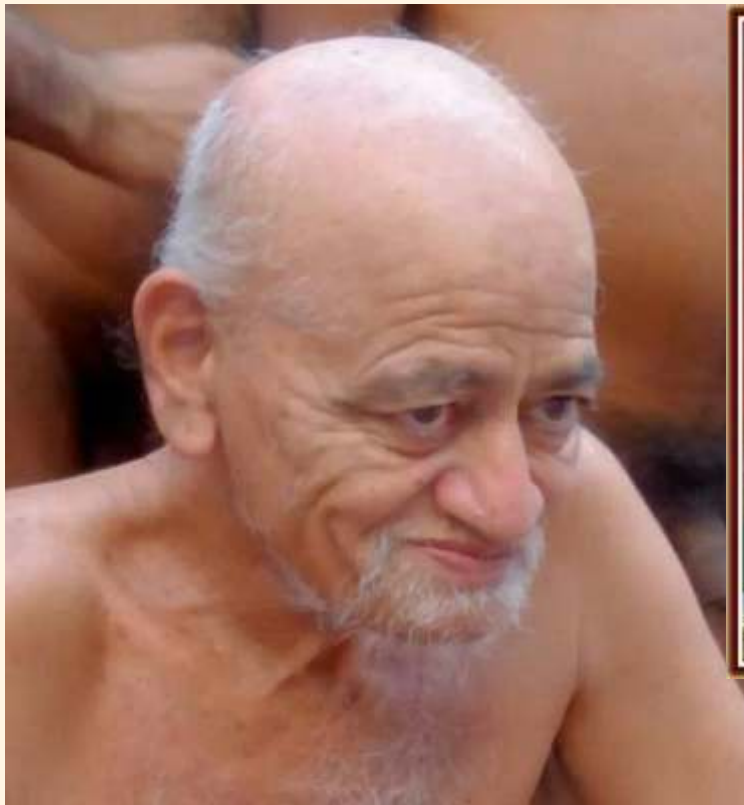
*Acharyashri with Munisangh for Rakshabandhan protecting  
all Aryakas and Brahmacharnis*



*Acharyashri taking class of Munisangh in summer (Grishmakalin Vachanalaya)*







Acharyashri in different poses



**The GURU and his Disciples**  
**soaking in the bliss of the Satsang of revered Guru Acharya Vidyasagar-ji**  
Acharya Vidyasagar Sangh with Muni, Ariyaka, Shravak and Shravikas  
at Dhyankendra at Shantinath Digamber Jain Temple, Ramtek



Ms. Indu Jain, Chairman, Times foundation releasing book The Mute Clay on 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of International School for Jain Studies in presence of Dr. Shugan Jain, Director ISSJS, Delhi Dr. Manju Jain Director ISJS Nagpur, Mr Saviour- UN Think Tank Representative, Co-ordinater of ISJS in Bangkok. On extreme left is Dr. Jeevanlal Jain, Vice President of Akhil Bhartiya Digamber Parishad

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