

DHARMANATH BHAGWAN



.Dharmanath Bhagwan is the fifteen Tirthankara in the current time cycle. His parents were King Bhanu and Queen Suvrata Devi and was born in the Ratnapur City -today,in the State of Uttar Pradesh, to the west of Ayodhya

After attaining Samyak Darshan, Dharmanath took three bhavs to attain Moksha. Prior to his birth as a Tirthankara, he was born as a King Dridhrath in the city of Bhaddil in Mahavideh Kshetra. He was a devout King who ruled with integrity and detachment, just like a guest in his own home. In this birth he acquired the Tirthankara naam and gotra karma. His next birth was as celestial being where he is said to have had a very long lifespan. His next birth was as Dharmanath Bhagwan.

Before his birth, his parents exhibited such new enthusiasm in performing religious activities and duties (dharma), that they named their son as Dharmanath – Lord of religion. His symbol (Lanchan) is Vajra (Thunderbolt) and is said to be of golden complexion.

Dharmanath attained Kevaljnana after two years of taking diksha. His first sermon (deshna) was on Kashayas (passions). The word Kashaya can be broken down into “Kash”, meaning worldly life and “aya” meaning gain. Therefore Kashaya means to gain worldly life again and again. There are four types of kashayas namely: Krodha (anger), Mana (ego), Maya (deceit) and Lobha (greed). These four can be grouped into 2 categories, either as Raga (attachment) or Dwesha (hatred). Maya and Lobha result in Raga and Krodha and Mana results in hatred. According to Jain religion, a person cannot escape the cycle of birth and death without the elimination of all Kashayas.

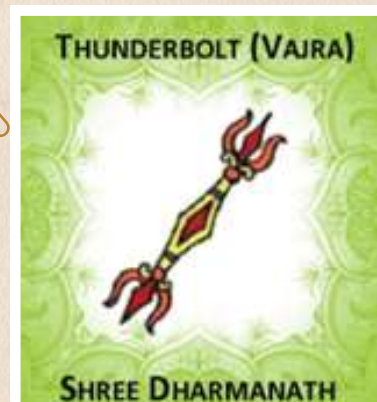


Janma Kalyanak

Maha Sud Trij

On this day, Jains try & do at least one 'mala' reciting:

**“Om Hrim
Shri Dharmanath
Arhate Namah”**



**Conquer Anger by Forgiveness,
Deceit by Straight-Forwardness
Ego by Humility and
Greed by Contentment.
.... Uttaradhyayana Sutra**

We are visitors on this planet. We are here for 100 hundred years at the most. During that period, we must try to do something good, something useful with our lives. If you contribute to other people's happiness, you will find the true meaning of life.
.... Dalai Lama

**If you are depressed,
you are living in the past.
If you are anxious,
you are living in the future
If you are at peace
you are living in the present. Lao Tzu**





To travel on the path to liberation, conquering aversion and attachment is a prerequisite. Anger and ego come from aversion and greed and deceit comes from attachment. All who have attained liberation, like Mahavirswami, Gautamswami and other souls have conquered these passions. To overcome these passions requires massive spiritual effort and can take many lifetimes.

Liberation may be a distant goal, but we all can be more aware of these passions and take a positive approach to minimise them as much as possible to make our life here and now more peaceful.

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From our scriptures and other quotes:
(DVS -Dasha-vaikālika Sutra)
(US - Uttarādhyayan Sutra)

By renouncing passions, the soul attains the state of complete freedom, the state beyond attachment and aversion (Vitarāga). On attaining the state of non-attachment and non-aversion, the soul becomes indifferent to worldly pleasure and pain. (US 29-36)

Anger (Krodha), pride (Māna), deceit (Māyā), and greed (Lobha) add to demerit (Pāp). He, who is desirous of his own well-being, should completely give up these four passions. (DVS 8-36)

One should suppress anger by tranquility. Pride should be replaced by humility. Deceit should be avoided through straightforwardness. One should overcome greed through contentment. (DVS 8- 38)

If anger and pride are not controlled, and if deceit and greed are allowed to increase, then these four evil passions serve to water the roots of the tree of transmigration (Samsār, cycle of birth and death). (DVS 8-39)

ATTACHMENT

There is a difference between feeling gratitude and appreciation **for** something and feeling attachment **to** something. Appreciation and gratitude are states of love, while attachment is based in fear - a fear of losing or not having what you are already connected to. Appreciation and gratitude attract, and attachment pushes away. If you are afraid that you will not get what you want, or of losing what you have, then you are dealing with an attachment. Shift your thinking to a state of appreciation and gratitude, until your fear has gone.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

BY KISHOR B SHAH





EGO:

Mahavir said, "Become victorious over ego by humility." He was once asked "What do we achieve by practicing humility?" to which he replied "With humility, our inner feelings become purified and such inner feelings eradicate the eight types of ego."

"If we practice gratitude as opposed to maintaining an attitude of entitlement, we'll automatically extend inspiration wherever we go. Being grateful helps remove the influence of our egos, which is certain that we're better than everyone else. An attitude of gratitude allows us to adopt the radical humility that's very persuasive in helping others connect with the Spirit that unites us all. Gratitude and humility send signals to all who meet us that we're all connected to something larger than life itself."

Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

We are what we repeatedly do.

Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." -Aristotle

...then so too is Ego, a habit.

"The most common ego identifications have to do with possessions, the work you do, social status and recognition, knowledge and education, physical appearance, special abilities, relationships, person and family history, belief systems, and often also political, nationalistic, racial, religious, and other collective identifications.

None of these is you."

Eckhart Tolle



KASHAYAS

ANGER | GREED | EGO | DECEIT

ANGER

There are many reasons why people become angry. Passions of greed, ego, and deceit brings on anger. Anger makes one forget about the difference between good and bad and reacts blindly without discretion. Anger ruins relationships and love in a split second. Anger is harmful to our body, mind and emotions, and to the purification process of our consciousness.

Anger causes the degradation of the soul. Pride leads to a low state of existence. Deceit is an impediment to progress towards a better state of existence. Greed spoils both present and the future lives. (US 9-54)

"Whether we consider the individual, family, local, national or international level, peace must arise from inner peace. For example, making prayers for peace while continuing to harbor anger is futile. Training the mind and overcoming your anger is much more effective than mere prayer. Anger, hatred and jealousy never solve problems, only affection, concern and respect can do that."

-Dalai Lama



BY KISHOR B SHAH



KASHAYAS



GREED

Greed is known as the father of all sins and the most difficult passions to remove. It is the root of the other passions - because of greed, we are deceitful, angry and egoistic. One can be greedy for wealth, fame, material possessions, beauty, and so on.

Just as fire is not quenched by the fuel and the oceans by thousands of rivers, Similarly no living being is satisfied even with all the wealth of all the three worlds.

(Bhagavati Aradhana -1143)

Knowing that greed has no bounds - all the rice and barley of the entire earth, all the stocks of gold and all the cattle of the earth are not sufficient to satisfy the desires of a single individual; the wise should practice austerities. (US 9-49)

Greed always increases with possessions. The more we get, the more we want. In the beginning, we desire little wealth and think that it will be sufficient for our needs. On acquiring it, we think that even millions will not be sufficient for our needs. (US - 8-17)

The world has enough for everyone's needs, but not everyone's greed," .. Gandhi

DECEIT

Deceit implies falsehood, cheating, dishonesty, trickery, corruption, bribery and crookedness. The opposite of deceit is Saralatä (straightforwardness).

When asked "What does a person achieve from straightforwardness?", Mahavirswami replied "Straightforwardness purifies body, mind and speech. True religion resides only in the hearts of straightforward people."

