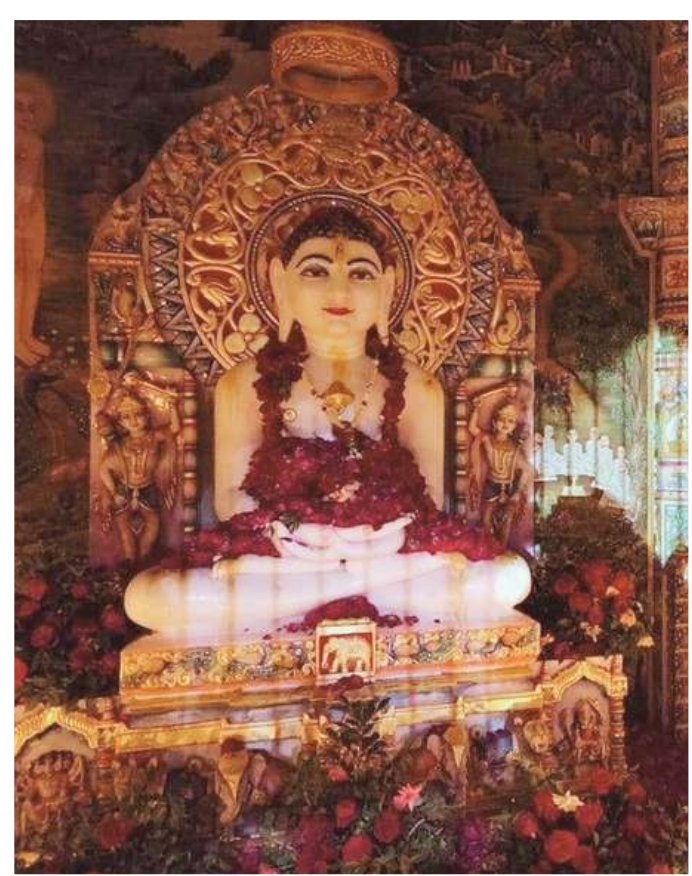




AJITNATH BHAGWAN



NIRVAN KALYANAK

Chaitra Sud Pancham

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

“Om Hrim Shri Ajitnath Parangatay Namah”

Anything that annoys you is for teaching you patience.
Anyone who abandons you is for teaching you how to stand up on your own two feet.
Anything that angers you is for teaching you forgiveness and compassion.
Anything that has power over you is for teaching you how to take your power back.
Anything you hate is for teaching you unconditional love.
Anything you fear is for teaching you courage to overcome your fear.
Anything you can't control is for teaching you how to let go and trust the Universe



Ajitnath Bhagwan is the second Tirthankara in the current time cycle.

The soul that became Bhagwan Ajitnath, in its previous incarnation, was King Vimalvahan of Susima city in Mahavideh Kshetra. He led a pious life in spite of all the riches and princely grandeur. He bound the Tirthankar-naam-gotra-karma due to his pious practices and deep meditation.

His soul was next reincarnated as a celestial God, where he lived a long life without getting involved in any celestial pleasures. His next and final birth was as Ajitnath Bhagwan, born in the city of Ayodhya. His symbol (lanchan) is Elephant and is said to be of golden complexion.

Ajitnath, like Rishabha, was born in the Ikshvaku line and was therefore directly descended from the first Tirthankara. The ruling monarch at Ayodhya at this time was King Jitashatru and his queen was Vijaya. The king had a brother, Sumitra (Vasumitra) whose wife was Vaijayanti. By a striking coincidence, both Vijaya and Vaijayanti dreamt the same fourteen dreams, as is usual with a would-be Tirthankara's mother. The seers were called in. As per their prediction, the former would give birth to a Tirthankara and the latter to a Chakravarti-monarch

Queen Vijaya's pregnancy lasted nine months, eight and half days. The 56 Dik-kumaris and 64 Indras celebrated Ajitnath's birth ceremonies as per their custom. Vaijayanti also gave birth to a son, who was named Sagar.

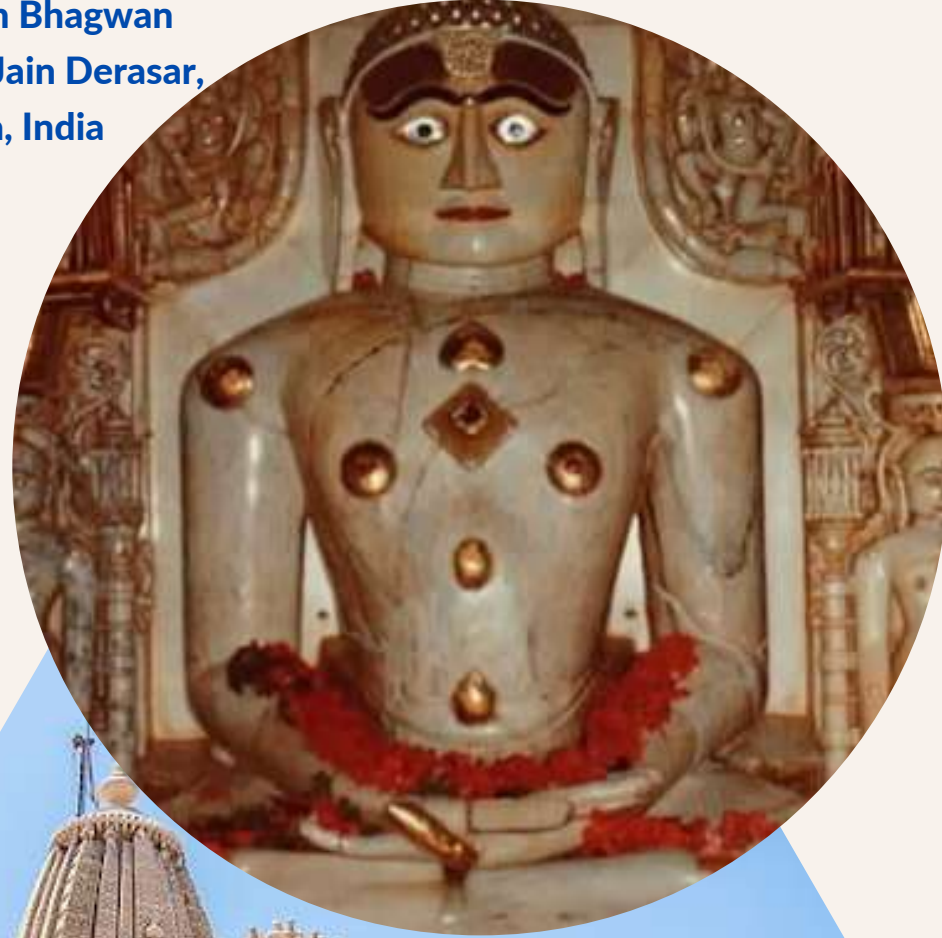
Whilst the Queen was pregnant, the power of the King expanded, as all his enemies started surrendering. The King decided to name his son when born as Ajit – the invincible. Some texts also state that he was called Ajitnath because he won over all Kashays namely, anger, pride, deceit, and greed.

On the attainment of proper age Sagara was entrusted to a teacher for his education but this was not necessary for Ajitnath, since a would-be Tirthankara needed no formal schooling. The two princes were then married. Now it was time for the king to lay down the rein of office. His brother Sumitra too expressed a similar desire but he was persuaded by the crown-prince to stay in the palace as a monk-by-instinct (Bhava-jati). Ajitnath was now crowned king and Sagara was made the crown prince. On the completion of his career as a king, which indeed was very illustrious because of the righteousness with which Ajitnath governed, the time was now ripe for his renunciation. He was duly notified of it by the gods. He then passed on the responsibility of the state to the crown-prince Sagara who very reluctantly



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Reference for part of the above article -
Jaina Tirthankaras by K C Lalwani



BY KISHOR B SHAH

took it up and spent a year in making gifts out of riches supplied by the gods. On the completion of a year, to perform the diksha ceremony, he was carried in a 'palanquin' called Suprabha, which required a thousand men to carry it to the garden named Sahasramravana. Next day, after taking diksha, he broke his two days fast by taking kheer at the house of King Brahmadata

Then started his spiritual journey as an ascetic, a very hard course for 12 years, during which Ajitnath wandered through dense forests and beautiful parks, reached mountain summits and passed by charming lakes. Sometimes he would be crossing dreary deserts bearing with perfect calm the rigours of summer, winter, and rains. During these wanderings he practiced all sorts of austerities.

At last, he came to the same park where 12 years earlier he had started his spiritual journey, sat down in meditation and attained higher and higher levels till at last he acquired the knowledge of the free - he attained Kevaljnana. The congregation was duly held with Ajitnath Bhagwan offering his sermons to the entire gathering. His first sermon (deshna) was on Dharma Dhyana. Ajitanatha then established the fourfold order (Tirtha) and named 90 Ganadhars - Chief Ganadhar was Sinhsen.

Ajitnanth Bhagwan attained moksha at Samet Shikhar with one thousand other ascetics.

Panch Kalyanaks

Chavan Klayanak

Vaishakh Sud Teras

Janma Kalyanak

Maha Sud Aatham

Diksha Kalyanak

Maha Sud Nom

Kevaljnana Kalyanak

Posh Sud Agiyaras

Nirvan (Moksha) Kalyanak

Chaitra Sud Pancham



"We must deliver ourselves with the help of our minds ... for one who has conquered the mind, the mind is the best of friends; but for the one who has failed to do so, the mind will remain the greatest enemy."

-BHAGAVAD-GITA

ASHTAMANGALA

GAHULI BY HANSHABEN

