

Shitalnath Bhagwan



Nirvan Kalyanak

Chaitra Vad Bij

“Om Hrim Shri Shitalnath
Parangatay Namah”

THE INNER SECRET OF JAINISM

They say that Jainism and its ahimsa-code have caught the imagination of the Indian nation.

I say that Jainism and its ahimsa-essence have elevated the consciousness of the entire world.

They say that the Jaina religion is practised only by the few. I say that the Jaina code of life is destined to be practised by the many.

They say that Jainism is confined to the shores of our Mother India. I say that the heart and soul of Jainism will eventually be embraced by humanity as a whole. Indeed, that blessed day is fast approaching.

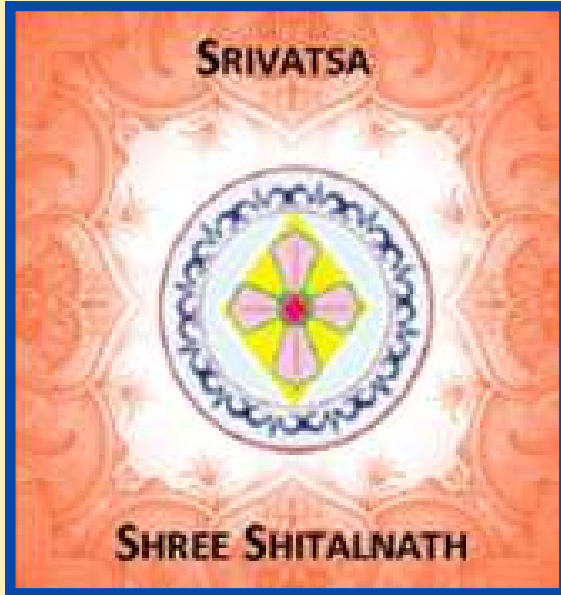
They say that Lord Mahavira and Lord Buddha were contemporaries, but by no means equals. I say that Lord Mahavira and Lord Buddha were perfect embodiments of the self-same Light of the ever-transcending Beyond. Who are we to judge them? We have to be fully enlightened like them before we can open our big mouths.

They say that Jainism is stark austerity-life. I say that Jainism expects austerity from those who have the capacity to renounce the world for the world-illumination, and self-control from those who are still enjoying the pleasure-life.

They say that Jainism is too difficult. I say that Jainism is easier than the easiest if you have but one feeling deep inside your heart: love and sacrifice for each and every living thing in the universe.

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BY SRI CHINMOY





NIRVAN KALYANAK

The event when a Tirthankara's soul is forever liberated from this worldly physical existence (cycle of birth and death) and becomes a Siddha. The Tirthankara's soul completely destroys the four Aghati Karmas and attains salvation, the state of eternal bliss.

Shitalnath Bhagwan is the tenth Tirthankara in the current time cycle. His parents were King Dradharath and Queen Nanda Devi and was born in the city of Bhadilpur. During her pregnancy, one day King Dradharath developed acute burning sensation and a high fever. None of the medicines or ointments could relieve his suffering. However, when Queen Nanda touched him, the King got an instant relief, the burning sensation and high fever subsided. They realised that this was due to the greatness of their unborn child and on the birth of their son, named him Sheetal (cool, calm). His symbol (lanchan) is srivatsa meaning the wishing tree (kalpavriksha). His symbolic colour is gold.

After attaining Samyak Darshan, Shitalnath took three bhavs to attain Moksha. Prior to his birth as a Tirthankara, he was first born as King Padmottar and then born as a celestial being.

Soon after taking diksha, he attained Keval Gyan. His deshna (sermon) was on Samvara Bhavana. He eventually achieved nirvan in Sammet Shikhar.

Exalted souls like Shitalnath are born to sanctify the earth and liberate mankind from human bondage – endless cycle of birth and death and achieve self-realisation and eternal bliss.

SAMVARA



- 1 Samyaktva (Right Faith)
- 2 Vrata (Vows)
- 3 Apramada (Vigilance)
- 4 Akashaya (absence of passions)
- 5 Ayoga (absence of activities)

Karma Particles

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The process that stops the influx of new karma from attaching to the soul is called Samvara.

This process is the opposite of Āsrava.

Asrava means inflow and attachment of karma.