

JAIN FESTIVAL AYAMBIL OLI

Shukla Saptami – Day 1 of Ayambil Oli Arihant Pad

Arihant is symbolised by the colour white and on this day the Ayambil menu includes boiled rice.

Arihants are liberated souls, with a physical body, after achieving omniscience by destroying knowledge-inhibiting (jñānāvaraṇīya), perception-inhibiting (darśanāvaraṇīya), delusion-causing (mohaniya) and hinderance-causing (antarāya) karmas by eliminating the delusional passions of anger, ego, greed and deceit after practising restraint, penance and austerities.

Arihants are also called Veetrāgi – free from worldly attachments as they are devoid of passions and have conquered inner enemies – Raga (attachment); Dvesha (dislikes), Kama (lust); Krodha (anger); Lobha (greed); moha (illusions); mada (pride); matsarya (envy).

Arihants are divided into two categories – Tirthankara Kevali and Samanya (ordinary) Kevali

Tirthankara are the ones who explain the Jain path of liberation and establish the Chaturvidha Sangh consisting of Sadhus(monks), Sadhvis (nuns), Shravakas and Shravikas. We bow to them first, hence the first line of the Namokār Mahā Mantra states “Namō Arihantānam.



Ritual: Khamasnas (x12) | Logassa (x12) |
Prayer - Ohm Hrim Namō Arihantanam (x20 malas)

If you wish to participate and are unable to do the above,
do as per your capacity and time.



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Mahavirswami Bhagwan Pratima

Shikharbandhi Jinalaya Oshwal Centre

Arihant Pad

During every half time cycle as per Jain cosmology, twenty-four individuals like us achieve the status of a Tirthankar. Bhagwan Rushabhdev was the first Tirthankar and Bhagwan Mahavir is the twenty-fourth and last Tirthankar in the current time cycle. Mahavir lived from 599BC to 527BC. A Tirthankar is also called a Jina - meaning conqueror of passions. At the time of liberation (moksha), the Arihant's soul completely destroys the four Aghati Karmas and attains salvation, the state of eternal bliss. Four Aghati Karmas are Nam Karma (physical forming), Gotra Karma (status forming), Vedniya Karma (pain & pleasure causing) and Ayushya Karma (Life span determining). As these Karmas do not affect the true nature of the Soul, they are known as Aghati Karmas. After attaining liberation, these Arihants become Sidhhas

Arihant Pad -12 Attributes

FOUR ANANT CHATUSHTA:

- Infinite Knowledge, Infinite Perception, Perfect Conduct, and Infinite Energy

EIGHT PRATIHARYA - ENDOWED BY HEAVENLY GODS:

- **Simhāsan** - A divine seat from where Arihant delivers his sermon.
- **Bhāmandal** - A halo behind Arihant's head is always present.
- **Chāmar** - Heavenly beings wave diamond studded fans (Chāmar) to honor Arihant's greatness.
- **Chhatra Traya** - A three tier divine umbrella over the head of a Arihant is always present, which suggests that the Tirthankar is the king of the entire universe that consists of three regions - Heaven, Hell, and Earth.
- **Ashok Vruksha** - The Ashok tree under which Arihant sits to deliver sermons.
- **Pushpa Vristi** - A continuous shower of fragrant flowers.
- **Deva Dundubhi** - A divine announcement declaring Arihant's sermons.
- **Divya Dhvani** - Celestial music accompanying Arihant's sermon.



AYAMBIL OLI JAIN FESTIVAL

ARIHANT PAD

Feels oneness with all living beings

Is always living in love, peace, and harmony

Is merciful

Thinks of the welfare of others

Remains in a balanced state even if someone threatens his life

Has no attachments, no hates, no desires

Does not think of the results of his work

Cannot feel insulted

Does not feel discomfort in cold, heat, storms, birth, or death

Is steady like the mountains (Himalayas)

Is deep like the ocean, non attached like air, gives happiness

like the moon

Has pure and complete knowledge



The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Tirthankara in Meditation

Above Highlights Many Virtues of a Arihant

