

Religion In Life Program

Jainism



Published for the Community by Scouts Canada

Religion in Life Program

Membership in Scouts Canada is open to all who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the Scout program is to assist children in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens of their country. An important part of the program is to assist in the spiritual growth of each child and to encourage them to participate actively in their own religious community. Scouts Canada upholds the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities.

The Emblem

The Emblem of the Jain religion is the Jain symbol.

Requirements

The requirements for the program differ in each faith and denomination and are prepared nationally by the churches or religious bodies to suit their particular needs.

Instruction

It is the responsibility of the group/section committee and leadership team to arrange for instruction of candidates with the candidate's own spiritual leader or appointee.

Presentation

Presentation of the emblem is made by the candidate's spiritual advisor and can form an impressive part of a regular Scout meeting, a church service, or a special evening for parents/guardians.

Stages

The Religion in Life program is in four progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

Stage 1 — Grey Border

Stage 2 — Green Border

Stage 3 — Blue Border

Stage 4 — Red Border

Candidates may start at any stage appropriate to their age and capabilities. Only one emblem — the latest stage earned is worn.

Where Obtainable

The emblem may be obtained through regular badge channels.

Where Worn

See Scouts Canada *By-Law, Policies and Procedures*.

Stage 1 — Grey Border (Ages 8, 9, 10-)

Word

Brief History of Jainism: Life of Lord Mahavir Jain Philosophy:

Introduction to 'Living and Non-Living' (Jiv and Ajiv) and Non-violence (Ahinsä)

Story – An elephant and the six blind men. Jain Glossary: Shävak, Shävikä, Sädhu, Sädhivi, Derasar, Jiv, Ajiv, Ahinsä, Tirthankar.

Worship

Names of 24 omniscient Lords (Tirthankars):

Practices in daily life: Jain greeting – Jai Jinendra

Respect the parents, teachers and elderly

Don't waste food, water and don't hurt living beings

Witness

Prayers (Stuties):

Learn behaviour in Jain Temple (Derasar)

Learn and recite Namaskar Mantra and Khamemi Sauva Jive

Jain Festivals: Learn the significance – Mahavir Jayanti, Paryushan and Diwäli

Stage 2 – Green Border (Ages 11, 12, 13, 14–)

Word

History of Jainism: Lives of Tirthankars – Mahavir, Adinath, Parshvanath and Ganadhar Gautama

Jain Philosophy: Significance of Jain Symbols: Ashtamangal and others

Four types of defilement (kashäy): anger, greed, ego, deceit

The story of four daughters in law (four types of spiritual aspirants)

Five vows (anurats) of householders

Jain Glossary: Ätmä, Anekäntväd, Ahinsä, Aparigrah, Karma, Poojä, Pranäm, Vrat, Dhyän

Worship

Recite Hymns (Ärati and Mangal Devo) from book

Practices in Daily Life: Vegetarian diet, exercise and stay healthy

Contribute charity (cash) and volunteer (kind)

Meditate after waking-up and before going to bed

Witness

Prayers (Stuties):

Chattäri mangalam, Darshanam dev devasya, Shivamastu sarvajagatah

Learn Temple Rituals: Nissih, Pradakshinä, Pranäm

Watch ceremonial rituals (Poojä) in a temple

Stage 3 – Blue Border (Ages: 14, 15, 16, 17 -)

Word

History of Jainism: Biographies of the Ächäyas: Kundkund; Haribhadrasuri, Hemchandra and Shimad Rajchandra

Jain Philosophy: Names and meanings of Nav Tattva (Nine Fundamentals) and Anekäntväd

Introduction to theory of particles of matter (karma)

Three Jewels: Right perception, Knowledge and Conduct

Jain Glossary: Sansär, Moksha, Karma, Dravya, Jiv, Ajiv, Pudgal, Dharma, Äkash, Käl

Worship

Prayers (Stuties): Learn and Recite Arhanto bhangavanta indramahtah

Know the meanings of Sutras from Samayik Jain Temple (Derasar) Rituals:

Learn and Practice the significance of Ashta- Prakäri Poojä

Witness

Jain Festivals: Learn the significance of Jnän Panchami; Oli and Varsi-tap

Daily Practices: Promote Vegetarianism, Yoga and Meditation

Practice Recycling and Environment Protection

Stage 4 – Red Border (Ages above 17 years)

Word

History of Jainism: Jain sects in India and its significances.

Learn the importance of pilgrimages in a few different places

Jain Philosophy: Understand Karma

Philosophy

Fourteen Stages of Spiritual Elevation (Gunasthänaks)

Meditations – different types – Preksha Dhyän

Worship

Prayers (Stuties):

Understand the significance of Navkär Mantra

Learn about twelve reflections (Bhävänäs) Jain temple

Rituals: Understand the meaning of Chaityavandan

Witness

Daily Practices:

Promote conservation;

Practice meditation;

Volunteer services

Note: For information and to order the books relevant for the above program please contact the JAINA Education Committee at www.jaina.org.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.jainism.org/Organization/centers/canada.htm>

Reference Books on Jain Religion

1. The Jaina Path of Purification by Padmanabh S. Jaini, Motilal Banarasidas, New Delhi, India.
2. The Peaceful Liberators, Jain Art from India, Pratipaditya Pal, L.A. County Museum of Art, USA.
3. Jainism Explained by Paul Maret, Jain Samaj Europe, Oxford Street, Leicester, U.K.
4. Jains in the World by John E. Cort, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, India.
5. The Jains by Paul Dundas, Rutledge, London, U.K.
6. Essence of Jainism by Manubhai Doshi, Jain Society of Chicago, Barlett, IL. USA.



It starts with Scouts.

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