

NEWS

The Indian Philosophical Quarterly is very happy to record the Institution of a chair in Jaina Logic, Philosophy and Culture in the University Department of Philosophy, University of Poona. A formal function of presenting a generous donation of Rs. 5 lakhs towards the endowment of a chair took place on 17th July, 1976 at Poona. Eminent Jaina Philanthropists like—Shri Lalchandji Hirachandji of the Walchand Group of Industries, Shri Ratilalbhai Nanavati of the Nanavati Trust, Shri Navalmalji Firodia of the Firodia Trust, Poona, and Shri Bhagwan Mahavira Nirvana Mahotsava Samiti Pune and Jaina Sangh Mandira Pune contributed towards the munificent donation which was accepted on behalf of the University by Professor D. A. Dabholkar the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Poona. Eminent Scholars and patrons of Jaina studies emphasised importance of such a chair and also suggested possible lines of study and research in the field.

Although, India has a rich treasure of literature and philosophy both in Sanskrit, Pali and Ardhamagadhi, we are gradually being deprived of this rich heritage; alienation is gradually increasing. For example, Nyaya literature is gradually becoming ununderstandable as the tradition of Nyaya learning is being broken. The same is the case with Jaina treatises in Logic and Metaphysics. If this process continues, we might be required to go for learning the Jaina texts, particularly when they are technical, to places like Harvard and Berlin. We might ourselves become foreigners to our heritage. If this is to be stopped one of the ways is to establish a Jaina Chair in some University, where studies of Jaina Philosophy would be carried out and modern thought would be made richer on account of its integration with Jaina learning and core.

The Chair will be named as “Seth Hirachand Nemchand Chair in Jaina—Logic, Philosophy and Culture.” It is proposed to institute a Professorship and two Research Fellowships initially under this scheme. The Professor will be incharge of the Research in the areas of Jaina Logic, Epistemology and metaphysics as well as social and cultural thought. The Research projects would be in

the form of a philosophical analysis of fundamental problems of Jaina Thought as well as translations and commentaries on selected texts. There is also a proposal for periodical lectures by eminent scholars and thinkers. Seminars and symposia also would be provided for.

It is hoped that such an endowment for a Chair in Jaina studies in a place where logical and analytical studies are being rigorously pursued would create an ideal research environment for the cultivation of Jaina tradition and also for bringing out the relevance of Jaina thought in modern times and problems. It is therefore gratifying to note that such a centre of Jaina logic, philosophy and culture is being instituted in the University of Poona. The proposed chair would have all the support and sympathy and good-wishes of patrons of philosophical studies in India.

—Editor

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Indian Philosophical Quarterly is proposing to devote a special number of the Journal to Aesthetics. Articles and studies dealing with philosophy of art and literature are invited.

—Editor

INDIAN PHILOSOPHICAL QUARTERLY

Indian Philosophical Quarterly feels privileged who gratefully acknowledged the generous help of its patrons and well-wishers who have encouraged our efforts by means of their valuable Life-Subscriptions. We are also grateful to the various Institutions of High Learning and University Departments of Philosophy which have given us their patronage by way of Institutional Membership. We publish here-under list of our Institutional and Individual Life-Members.

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