

JAINS



**EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS**



नमोकार महामंत्र

नमो अरिहंताणं
नमो सिद्धाणं
नमो आयरियाणं
नमो उवज्झायाणं
नमो लोए सव्वसाहूणं

एसो पंच नमुक्कारो, सव्व पावप्पणासणो
मंगलाणं च सव्वेसिं, पढमं हवइ मंगलं

Namo Arihanthanam
Namo Siddanam
Namo Aayariyanam
Namo Uvajhayanam
Namo Loesavva Sahunam

Eso Pancha Namukkaro
Savva Pava Pana Sano
Mangala Nancha Savvesim
Padhamam Havai Mangalam.

ஓம் பஞ்ச குருப்யோ நம ஓம்

ணமோ அரிஹந்தாணம்
ணமோ ஸித்தாணம்
ணமோ ஆயரியாணம்
ணமோ உவஜ்ஜாயாணம்
ணமோ லோயேஸவ்வ ஸாஹுணம்

ஏஸோ பஞ்சநமோக்காரோ
ஸவ்வ பாவப்பணாஸேணோ
மங்களாணம் ச ஸவ்வேஸிம்
படமம் ஹவ இ மங்களம்

JAINS



EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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No.11, Ponnappa Lane
Triplicane
Chennai - 600 005
South India.

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Dedicated

To

my Father and the Beacon Light of our family

Late Shri Nathmal Singhvee

of

Siyat Sojat Road, Rajasthan

1918 – 1991

FOREWORD

The Jains have made a very significant contribution in Tamil Nadu. The first migration of Jains from Rajasthan to Tamil Nadu dates back to nearly 200 years. These people not only did good trade and business with honesty and sincerity but also followed the principle of 'Live and Let Live' enunciated by Bhagwan Mahaveer by their generous philanthropy. They served the people of Tamil Nadu both in the field of health and education. The first Educational Institution was started 80 years back and today there are several educational institutions not only in Chennai but also in various districts of Tamil Nadu. The enormous services rendered by these educational institutions have remained mostly unnoticed, as there has been no effort to publish or bring out a consolidated report with full details of these institutions.

I am really happy to note that Sri Sugachandji Jain has come forward to collect the information regarding the Educational Institutions run by Jain Community and publish them as a book titled 'JAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS'. The Jains India Trust has put in considerable efforts to collect statistics and details about each of these Institutions. It is gratifying to note that all the Institutions are run by Charitable Trusts or Societies. None of these Institutions take capitation fees and all the Institutions are maintaining a very high standard of Education. The members of the community are not only good donors but have also proved to be very good management experts managing these Institutions in excellent manner.

I sincerely hope that all the Jain Institutions will continue to render excellent service in the field of Education at most affordable costs.

I commend the efforts of the Trust in bringing out this excellent book, which is cogent, concise and carries clarity. This book will act as a good reference book on the contribution made by Jain Community in the field of education in Tamil Nadu. It will also be a useful guide to all those who want to pursue good education in the state of Tamil Nadu.

Chennai
4th May 2004

Kailashmull Dugar

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Jains of Rajasthan who have made Chennai their home have been in the forefront of educational service. But owing to various reasons the educational institutions being run by them are not known to many of the Jain community, let alone the public – may be with a few exceptions like AM Jain College and D B Jain College. Jains view the establishing and running

of schools and colleges and serving the community in other spheres as a religious duty, which each one of them is bound to undertake. In addition to founding schools by themselves they generously contribute to non-Jain and Government schools and colleges. They have proved that a single community can make a significant contribution in the development of education in Tamil Nadu.

For various reasons the Jain institutions are not very visible among the well-known schools, in spite of doing excellent work. In order to give these institutions their due recognition, we, at Jains India Trust, decided to bring out this book providing comprehensive data about these institutions. This will not only bring awareness of these institutions among the public, but also serve as an inspiration to Jains and non-Jains in establishing new such institutions. We also hope that this book would help the public in utilising the facilities available in these institutions.

Most of us are aware that Jains also provide various services in the medical and healthcare sectors. The Jain Medical Relief Society has Mahaveer Eye Hospital and Manakchand Betala Maternity Hospital, which offer medical services at nominal and / or no cost. The Singhvi Charitable Trust serves the visually handicapped by providing them, free of cost, treatment for eye diseases and spectacles. Apart from these, Jains run various free dispensaries in Perambur, Saidapet, Triplicane etc. The community has also taken the lead in establishing and maintaining *ghowshalas* and other animal shelters to serve the cause of animal welfare.

This being our first effort in the field, we would be happy to receive your suggestions, ideas and additional information. We have tried our best to include all the Jain educational institutions of Tamil Nadu. We would be obliged if you bring to our notice any Jain institution that has been overlooked. We shall be happy to incorporate the information in our subsequent editions.

We also plan to cover the facilities established by members of the Jain community in sectors other than education through similar publications in the near future. Similarly we would also be focusing on families and individuals who have contributed to these efforts.

We thank Ms. Jency Samuel for collecting the comprehensive information from the institutions and founders and for preparing the draft. We thank the managements of all the institutions and Principals and other office bearers for having found time midst their busy schedules for providing necessary information and interesting anecdotes. We thank all the school authorities without whose support we would not have been able to compile this book. We thank our Advisor, Shri P. V. Krishnamurthy for his support and positive suggestions.

May we suggest that all the educational institutions make copies of this book available to their students and parents as well as others so that the information available herein has a wider reach and proves useful to the community at large.

Chennai – 600 005
Dated: 14.07.2004

N. SUGALCHAND JAIN

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INTRODUCTION

Agurchand Mansion, Galada Pharmaceuticals, AM Jain College – They are but mere names or landmarks that a Chennaiite crosses often without pausing to think who or what is behind these fine Indo – Saracenic building, the pharmaceutical business or the spacious college.

The Rajasthan Youth Association's Book Bank Project is unique and is a big draw with economically weak students. Mukti, Rajasthan Cosmo Club, Singhvi Charitable Trust are names one associates with free artificial limbs, free school uniforms and books and free spectacles. Here again we spare no thought as to what drives these people towards such contributions to the society.

But there runs a common thread through the names and the works. Jain. The word 'Jain' brings to mind the white robes of the sadhvis and the stately structures of their white marble temples. The Jains are a miniscule presence in India – more so in Tamil Nadu, accounting to a little less than 0.2% of Tamil Nadu's total population. And of Chennai's 59 lakhs, Jains number an approximate one lakh. Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Karnataka have the largest number of Jains. In Tamil Nadu, Jains inhabit towns of trade and commerce. For, a majority of them are into trade and finance. They are found in Chennai, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Tiruvannamalai, Tindivanam,

Kancheepuram, Sirkazhi, Madhurantakam, Kumbakonam, Cuddalore, Ooty, Coonoor and in smaller numbers in many other places. During the reign of kings and zamindars, some served as tax collectors. While they were into trades of textile, jewelry and steel till a few decades ago, many of the younger generation hold professional qualifications now and are even into manufacturing. The business interests of the community have also widened – including travel, tourism, real estate, printing, software development, etc.

While their silent presence has added colour to the cultural ambience of the city, their silent contribution has brightened many a life. In fact, compared to the community's strength in terms of numbers, their contribution to many a cause – especially in the fields of education and healthcare – has been enormous. For, they strictly adhere to the religious tenet of 'alleviation of misery' – which in reality translates into education and medical aid. According to Jain scriptures, there are four types of charity, namely, *Shashtra Dan*, *Ahar Dan*, *Aushadh Dan* and *Abhaya Dan*. The religious duty of educating the masses and giving them right values is known as *Shashtra Dan*. *Ahar Dan* is feeding the poor, *Aushadh Dan* is giving medical aid to the sick and *Abhaya Dan* is providing shelter to the homeless.

To fulfill *Shashtra Dan*, the Jains have established more than fifty educational institutions – a majority of them schools - and a few colleges, including two engineering colleges. While most of these schools are in and around Chennai city, a few are functioning in Coimbatore, Ooty, Coonoor, Madurai, Vellore, etc. Various Trusts that help in functioning of temples, like the Sri Chandra Prabhu Jain Naya Mandir Trust run *Aaimbile* kitchens where food without salt, oil, and spices are offered free of cost. This meal is taken just once a day, as a sort of a penance. These kitchens on an average, cater to fifty people per day which doubles or triples on *Chaturmas* and *Ashtami* days. Various charitable and temple trusts also run *dharamsalas* to provide shelter. To fulfill *Aushadh Dan*, many free diagnostic centres and clinics are run in addition to free eye camps, free medical camps, etc. that are held frequently. The Jains believe in 'Live and let live' policy that extends not only to human beings but all life forms. Hence when it comes to practising *Abhaya Dan*, the Jains provide shelter to animals also - in the form of *pinjrapols* and *ghowshalas*. Jains are proponents of vegetarianism and *Ahimsa* and so they actively support the causes of organisations like Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), People For Animals (PFA) and Blue Cross.

While some Jains maintain their ties to their roots, some have totally assimilated themselves into their adapted homeland. But in terms of contribution, though they do contribute to their adapted land as well as Rajasthan, the contribution is significant in Tamil Nadu.

As this book deals with the contribution of Jains to the cause of education, the following chapters talk about the contribution during ancient and medieval period and in the nineteenth century.

CONTRIBUTION OF JAINS TO EDUCATION AND LITERATURE IN SANGAM PERIOD

Though Jainism spread to various parts of India when Mahavira sojourned in search of truth, Jainism took root in South India in the second century BC. Bhadrabahu became the head of Jaina church in 317 BC. He predicted a famine that would last for twelve years. To tide over this period, he decided to migrate to South India along with his followers. Historians and scholars also accept that the great famine of Magadha might have compelled Bhadrabahu to migrate south. And migrate he did, with twelve thousand followers and a royal disciple, Chandragupta Maurya. Though there is no recorded history of Jain presence in South India prior to Bhadrabahu's migration,

Bhadrabahu is said to have sent forth his followers to spread the message of Mahavira and to be in communion with the other Jain scholars elsewhere. Besides, Jain literary evidence states that Jainism spread from Ujjain to Deccan and further down South due to the efforts of Asoka's grandson Samprati. But there is no epigraphical evidence to substantiate this claim. Dr. Ekambaranathan in his book '*Chozhar Aatchiyil Samana Samaya Valarchi*' says that after the death of Bhadrabahu, his disciple Visakaacharya and other monks came to Tamil Nadu.

Jains were pioneers in many ways in the field of education. While the proponents of Vedic culture taught their students only in Sanskrit, education was not available to the outcasts. But Jains learnt Tamil so that they could educate the masses through their mother tongue. They taught many women too. These women scholars were known as *kurattiyar* and *manakkigal*. Inscriptions in Kalugumalai in Tirunelveli district bear testimony to this fact, where various names of such women student *kurattiyars* are found. They were taught religion, ethics, logic and medicine. According to *Naladiar*, a Jain work, there is nothing comparable to education as the medicine for all miseries in this world. *Naladiar* contains four hundred verses of four lines each. It is verse 132 that says that education is the only medicine for all ills.

Immai payakkumaal eeyakkuraivintaal
Thammai vilakkumaal thaamularakkaedintaal
Emmaiylagathum yaankaanaem kalvi pol
Mammar arukkum marundhu

CmûU TVdïUôp DVdïû\®u\ôp
 RmûU ®[dïUôp RômE[Wôd úL¥u\ôp
 EmûU EXLjÕm VômLôúQm Lp®úTôp
 UmUo Aßdïm UÚkÕ

According to another Jain work *Arungala Cheppu*, even an outcast who is educated and enlightened is an equivalent of God. *Naladiar* too advocates a similar philosophy. Verse 136 says

Thoni eyakkuvaan thollai varunathuk
Kaanirkadaippattan entigazhaar - kaanaai
Avan thunaiya aaru poyattae nool katta
Mahan thunaiya nalla kolal

úRô| «VdïYôu ùRôpûX YÚQjÕd
 Lô|u LûPITHPôu Gu±LZôo - LôQôn
 AYûÕûQVô BßúTôn Atú\èp Lt\
 ULuÕûQVô SpX ùLô[p

The essence is that education breaks down caste differentiations by birth. With such an outlook on education, they were pioneers in mass education, education through mother tongue and women's education.

Jains along with Buddhists are mainly responsible for the evolution of Tamil script. Earliest inscriptions found in caves occupied by Jain monks are in Brahmi scripts. Tamil words were inscribed with Brahmi script. For the Tamil letters like *ra*, *zha*, etc. that did not have a match in Brahmi script, the monks created new letters. Various such inscriptions are found in mountain caves around the Pandia Kingdom's capital Madurai. During Chozha period Jainism flourished and Jain monks and scholars enjoyed royal patronage.

The very word '*pallikoodam*' in Tamil, which means school, has a Jain origin. The monasteries of Jains and Buddhists were known as '*palli*'. '*Koodam*' means a small room. As the monks taught their students in one of the rooms of their monastery, '*pallikoodam*' started denoting a school. The other schools of the Vedic culture were known as '*thinnaipalli*'.

The literary contribution of the Jains is quite vast. Though some of it were lost during religious aggressions against Jains, many have survived. Of the five great epics of Tamil, *Silappadhikaram*, *Valayapathi* and *Seevakachinthamani* were written by Jains. *Seevakachinthamani* was written by Thiruthakkathevar and *Silappadhikaram* by Ilango Adigal. *Nannul*, a Tamil grammar of later times was written by Pavanandhi Munivar, a Jain monk. Vajranandhi founded the *Dravida Sanga* in Madurai and undertook religious and educational activities. It was during this period that Jain monks and even ordinary citizens wrote many ethical works such as *Naanmanikadigai*, *Inna Narpathu*, *Iniyavai Narpathu* and *Sirupanchamoolam*. The period between second century AD and twelfth century AD is called the Golden Age of Jaina literary movement. During this period, Jains produced narrative literature, socio-political histories, historical biographies, poetry and technical works on astronomy, medicine, etc. in ArdhaMagadhi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu and Kannada.

In Tamil Nadu, during the medieval period, Jains were concentrated in the surrounds of Madurai, the Pandia kingdom. In ninth century AD, Chozha kings took over the Pandia kingdom and the frequent wars between the two resulted in the migration of Jains to north Tamil Nadu. That is how Jain temples and schools came to be established in Melsiddhamoor, Tindivanam, Ginjee, Arcot, etc. In Tiruppaanmalai near Arcot, the construction of a Hindu temple had been left incomplete. It was renovated and used as a sort of a residential school for women. Aristanemi's disciple, Pattinikuratti managed this school. There are also evidences of schools for women in Pallimadam in erstwhile Pandia kingdom and Vedal in erstwhile Thondai kingdom. Shri Ekambaranathan, in his book, quoting epigraphic reports says that in the Vedal school four hundred Jain sadhvis and five hundred women had their education.

But the greatest contribution is the equal status they accorded to men and women, ages before women's liberation was heard of. From evidences it is understood that Jain monks had male and female disciples and sadhvis had men and women students. In educational and religious activities, they worked together. Though there is no recorded history of a certain period, the pioneering work done by the Jains is evident and is being carried on by the present generation.

JAIN CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION IN TAMILNADU FROM C19 ONWARDS

Centuries of observing the religious duties of the four *dan* have ingrained an unmatched generosity in Jains that it is no longer an acquired second nature but an innate trait. The pioneering work initiated by the Jain monks is being carried on by the present generation with the same fervour, if not more.

The present generation in Chennai traces its immediate ancestors' sojourn to the South to the early 1800s. The Galadas of T. Nagar and Sowcarpet have common ancestors who inhabited Nagaur in Rajasthan till 1515. Then they moved on to Kuchera. In the early 1800s, from Kuchera, a young Kaluram Galada trudged along on foot for six months to reach Madras. He had journeyed to prove his mettle to his family. And when he went back as a successful man, he proved to be an inspiration for other youngsters to follow suit. But some elders suggest that Kaluram Ratanlal Maloo might have come to Madras in the late 1700s. Because when Agurchand Chordia came to Madras, he was in the employ of the Maloos. But the successive generations of the Maloo family have again shifted base and no member of the said Maloo family resides in Chennai today.

Following the example of Kaluram Galada, Agurchand Chordia from Kuchera, seeking greener pastures trundled in a bullock cart to reach Bangalore in 1822. Then in 1825, he moved to Madras. For a while he assisted the Nawab of Arcot in collecting tax from villages. And here it should be mentioned that traditionally Jains have been in money trade. The superintendent of the mint under four Chalukyan kings was a Jain. Irrespective of the king who ruled, very often Jains were in charge of the money and tax matters of the kings. This practice continued even during the British period. And so it was little wonder that Shri Agurchand Chordia came to be of service to the Nawab of Arcot. For his services, the latter made him the zamindar of Tiruttani, Puthur and Nagari villages close to Madras. When Shri Agurchand passed away, his son Shri Manmull Chordia - who had been serving as the deputy collector in Sambar district of Rajasthan before coming to Madras - handed over the villages to the East India Company. The Company paid a compensation of rupees two lakhs. This money was kept in a trust account in the High Court of Madras. It was this money that helped in establishing the Agurchand Manmull Jain College, says Shri Parasmull Chordia, great great grandson of Shri Agurchand.

It is not necessarily that when a person contributed to the cause of education, he gave out of abundance. Shri Mohanmull Chordia's family in Nokha of Rajasthan subsisted only on bajra and buttermilk. But when he was adopted by Shri Manmull Chordia's son Shri Sohanmal and came to Madras, the materialistic wealth did not influence him. Rather it was his regard and reverence for his maternal uncle Shri Mangichand Bhandari that instilled in him a desire to be of service to the society, especially in the field of education.

Thus he played a major role in founding the Sri Swetamber Stanakwasi Jain Educational Society. Every one who remembers the pioneering stalwarts of the S.S.Jain Educational Society does so with a kind of reverence. Even though Shri Mohanmull Chordia had no formal education - people still remember with a smile, his scribble of a signature - his vision and planning capabilities helped the S.S Jain Educational Society in good stead. Earlier in 1918, he had helped establish and run the Sanathan Dharam Vidyalaya. He also established a school in his hometown Kuchera. His remarkable growth in life and his contribution to the cause of education were appreciated and the Maharaja of Jodhpur, conferred on him the 'Palki Shiropa'. He was also awarded Padmashri by president Shri V. V. Giri. His gentle manners made every one, including his business associates and clients rever him as a godfather. So much so, that many of his associates in transport business donated liberally when he proposed the starting of Agurchand Manmull Jain College. It was due to his generous contribution that the AM Jain College took shape. He continued to contribute for the cause of education and other charitable works till his death in 1984. Now his heirs continue the tradition.

Shri Tarachand Galada, a descendant of the first migrant Shri Kaluram Galada, was a typical Gandhian who wore khadi and Gandhi cap. Shri Mohanlal Chordia of Mylapore – whose father Shri Jawantmull Chordia played an important role in the S.S. Jain Educational Society - remembers with awe Shri Galada's fund raising abilities. Shri

Galada too played an enormous role in the shaping of the S.S.Jain Educational Society since he motivated members of the Jain community in contributing generously.

Shri Mangichand Bhandari took care of the planning of the buildings and the construction activities. Every day he would visit the Amoluckchand Galada School, AM Jain College and Ganeshbai Galada School when each was under construction.

Though the community as a whole contributed, Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Tarachand Galada, Shri Inderchand Galada and Shri Mangichand Bhandari can be safely called as the corner stones on which the successive generations- the pillars - have raised many 'temples of learning'.

The elders keenly felt the importance of educating women also. Way back in 1953, Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Mangichand Bhandari and Shri Roopchand Khimsura took the efforts to establish the SS Jain Kanya Vidyalaya, which is now being run by SS Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh as Mangikanwar Anraj Chordia Jain Primary School.

The contribution made by women of the Jain community is also commendable. While the women of the earlier generations lent a silent moral support to their husbands' endeavours, the present generation is involved in the running of the institutions. From 1980s onwards ladies like Smt. Sushila Bhandari, Smt. Pramila Dugar, Smt. Chandrakala Galada and Smt. Lalitha Bhandari have been playing an active roll in the running of schools and hospitals. Secretary of Ganeshbai Galada Smt. Madhu Surana, having seen an adult literacy program in Jaipur thought of implementing the same here. So they have started a free adult literacy program for women in Mangi Kanwar Anraj Chordia School, which benefits sixty ladies who learn the basics of Hindi, English and Mathematics.

Some women have taken up the cause of education after the death of the spouse so as to carry on the literacy torch lit by them. Smt. Sampath Bai Galada, wife of Shri Inderchand Galada is a typical example. Without an educational background, she contributed generously so that the generations to come would be benefitted through the Ganesh Bai Galada School, named after her mother-in-law and wife of Shri Amoluckchand Galada. Similar is the case of Smt. Gopikanwar, who not only donated after her husband Shri Surajkaran's demise to fulfill his wishes but also let her house be used to run the Terapanth Vidyalaya till the building was completed. Smt. Sayardevi of Tiruvannamalai inspired her sons to establish a school to perpetuate the memory of their father.

This shows that the Jains do not allow personal problems to come in the way of their concerns. For, each name that is spelt in the cause of education has had his share of personal, physical and business problems. It is just that they do not let these problems hamper their philanthropic work that is uppermost in their minds. In fact personal losses spur them more into sharing, as in the case of Shri Vijailal Kothari. When his four-year-old son Goutamchand passed away in a road accident, Shri Vijailal's father and his brother wanted to do something to perpetuate the child's memory. They had decided to donate a considerable amount of money in Goutam's memory within twenty-four hours of their loss. Now there are three institutions being run in his name. As Shri Kailashmull Dugar says, if one has the will and the determination one can set one's mind to doing anything.

The establishment of Research Foundation for Jainology is a venture involving the Digambara and Swetambara sects of Jains. It was started in 1982 with the aim to create awareness of Jain philosophy and tenets among the public. For, as Shri Krishnachand Chordia, General Secretary of the Foundation says, the tenets help

people in developing body, mind, soul and the spirit. It should be mentioned that the Jains are not just into propounding the Jain philosophy but those, which help us to become better beings. That is how Shri Krishnachand Chordia was attracted to the Tirukkural. Though he is a North Indian and Tamil is not his mother tongue, he has an in-born talent in Tamil. He started writing verses when he was barely into his teens. He has presented many a paper and written books. His contribution to Tamil literature and his proficiency in Tirukkural has brought him many awards and citations. With his unmatched contribution to Tamil, his presence is prominent in the Tamil literary scene. And since we are talking of the Tamil language, many Jains are proud of their proficiency in Tamil - for some like Shri Chaganmal Dhoka have studied in Tamil medium schools. Hence all the Jain institutions have Tamil as a language so as to assimilate better into their adapted land. The Research Foundation for Jainology also contributes to Tamil literature by publishing books - the recent one being 'Chulamani' written by Tolamoli Thevar of the Sangam period.

Another interesting facet is that the Jains are truly secular in their outlook. When the Madras University celebrated 125 years of educational service in 1983, the university decided to introduce new courses in commemoration. When Shri Krishnachand Chordia approached the university on behalf of the Foundation, the university agreed and a department of Jainology was created with an endowment of Rupees fifteen lakhs from the Foundation. The department offering MA, M.Phil, PhD, certificate and diploma courses attract many non-Jains. In fact, the first doctoral thesis of the department is by Shri B. Sekar, a Christian priest. The department that has produced nine PhDs and eight doctoral dissertations getting ready, has come into its own with the allocation of funds by UGC. Shri Krishnachand Chordia not only started the department of Jainology but also persuaded the other religious heads to introduce courses on their respective religions and succeeded. So the departments of Christian studies, Islamic studies, Saivism and Vaishnavism in Madras university - the only university to offer five religious courses - owe their origin to the initiative taken by Shri Krishnachand Chordia.

In the same regard, Jains contribute only to 'education' and no other parameter comes into the picture. Thus Shri Mohanmull Chordia and Shri Lalchand Dadha were involved in running the Sanathan Dharam Vidhyalaya. Shri Lalchand Dadha founder of the Jain Medical Relief Society played an important role in starting the AM Jain College. He constructed buildings for a government higher secondary school in Phalodi and an auditorium for Sardar High School in Jodhpur. In addition to serving as a member of executive committee of National Girls' School in Triplicane, he also made monetary contribution. Various philanthropic families have donated to numerous private and government schools, some of which bear the name of the donors like the Badalchand School run by the Vivekananda Society.

The Jains not only join hands among themselves to establish educational institutions but also with non-Jains. The CL Baid Metha college of Pharmacy is one of them. Shri Hastimal Surana, whose father Shri Chainmal Surana established the Badankanwar Chainmal Surana Matriculation School in Royapuram has formed such an association. Along with his non-Jain associates, he has formed a Mahalakshmi Educational Charitable Trust, which is running the Arcot Sri Mahaalakshmi Women's College in Villapakkam under Tiruvalluvar University. Started in 1999 in a forty-acre land, the college has a strength of 1250 girls. Shri Hastimal has also teamed up with a few others to form Vidyasagar Charitable Trust, which is planning to start V.S. Women's Arts and Science College in Chengalpet. He emphasises on women's education for their emancipation. He has also founded a Gothi Surana Educational Trust and plans are afoot in starting the Ratankanwar Bhawarlal Gothi Jain College in Red Hills locality.

Among those who have rendered service to education, there are two categories. People like Shri Mohanchand Dadha and Shri Ugamraj Mootha who contribute towards improvising the schools they established are happy to leave it to professionals to run the schools. And there are the likes of Shri Goutamchand Surana who spends upto four hours each day in his schools, constantly striving to make it comparable to the best in the education sector. Shri Harish Metha, who is involved in the running of the BS Mootha Senior Secondary School, MNM Jain Engineering College and DB Jain College, looks into the minutest of details to offer the best of education to students and also to make learning a happy experience. Shri Chaganmal Dhoka, correspondent of Terapanth Jain Vidyalaya says he had no experience in running a school. But circumstances forced him to take it up, which he attributes to divine guidance. For years he has been visiting the school everyday so as to increase its standards. His aim is not to produce 100% results in board exams but to shape each student so that he can stand on his own on completion of studies. With this aim he has introduced various methods that have automatically brought in the results at the exams.

And then there are those who shaped the schools, themselves having had no or little education. Besides Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Tarachand Galada and Shri Mangichand Bhandari mentioned earlier, such contributions were made by the likes of Shri C.L. Metha. He, along with Shri Suganmull Srisrimal Jain and Shri Kushalchand Galada raised the Bijairaj Sajjanraj Mootha Senior Secondary School. Shri Metha was born in Madras after his father came from Sadri. He studied only upto the fifth standard. But the service he rendered to the cause of education has no parallel. He was instrumental in starting DB Jain College, MNM Jain Engineering College, CL Baid Metha College of Pharmacy, BS Mootha Senior Secondary School and the Sanghvi Subhadraaben Chunnilal Ramdev Matriculation School. An honorary doctoral degree was conferred on him in recognition of his work.

While all the schools give importance to physical education, some have taken extra efforts. Shri Harish Metha, Shri Gautamchand Surana and Shri Vimal Galada are the ones who can be bracketed in this category as having laid special emphasis on the physical development of the students. Dr.C.L. Metha with his active involvement in the Bharat Scouts and Guides was awarded the Silver Elephant Award in 1990. Shri Harish Metha has followed in his father's footsteps and received the same in 2000.

Besides the individuals who involved themselves, numerous Trusts are contributing in different ways. This is by way of supply of school uniforms, books and notebooks and school fees. Some of them give merit and merit-cum-means scholarships. Some contribute towards providing or upgrading infrastructure - like computer laboratories, library, teaching aids, classrooms, etc. A few create endowment awards to encourage students in their educational endeavours. Shri Harish Metha is planning to offer interest free loans to poor college students from the academic year 2004 - 05 so that they can pay after graduating from college. The management of Sri Tarachand Galada Jain Vidyalaya has introduced novel concepts to make learning child-friendly as most of their students are from economically weaker section. It has helped parents to open bank accounts so that they can deposit small amounts and can use it later to pay the fees of their wards.

Many of the Jain schools have introduced special coaching for first generation learners and slow learners; this is in no way confined to Jains. As a matter of fact, though the schools are termed as 'Jain schools', most of the beneficiaries are non-Jains. For, the schools do not collect any donation at all. Because Jains consider education as a service and there is no commercial interest in running the schools. While other schools take in students depending on the education of the parent or parents, in Jain schools, the educational or societal background of the parents are never checked except their ability to pay the fees of their children. Even in case of inability to pay the

fees, the management bears it or scholarships are arranged. As Shri Chaganmal Dhoka mentions, all Jain schools ensure that, no student is denied admission or is forced to drop out because of financial reasons. This has helped people by the thousands, as people from working class are greatly benefited. This does not mean that the schools get students only from poor background. The repute of the school brings in children from all walks of life. The ease with which admission can be obtained brings in first time learners. The greatness lies in the fact that the schools strive and shape such students so that they measure upto the standards of the well-known schools. The standard of the schools can be ascertained from the fact that the Jains who have succeeded in spite of hardships- Shri Sugalchand Jain, Shri Kailashmull Dugar, Shri Vijailal Kothari, to name a few- are alumni of the Jain schools.

People like Shri Kailashmull Dugar come up with new methods and keep improvising on them to bring education within the reach of every one. He started the Rajasthan Youth Association in 1963, under the wing of which he started the Book Bank Project in 1964. When he was a student of commerce in AM Jain College, he found that every one could not afford to buy books. As the library books had to be returned before the exams, the poor students would find it difficult to prepare for exams. He used to help a fellow student, the son of a purohit. From his student days came the idea of starting the book bank project. The association decided to buy new books and loan them to students, which they would return on completion of their studies. The books could be reused upto four or five times. They let the students know of their project by meeting the heads of colleges and then putting up announcements in the notice board. Though every one they approached was apprehensive of the project, the association members, headed by Shri Kailashmull Dugar decided to go ahead with the idea. So they started the project with seven thousand rupees and gave books to twenty-five students in 1964. Next year they gave books to 86 students. About fifteen to twenty people, including Shri S.R. Damani, Shri Mahaveerchand Bhandari and Shri Sarbathchand Chordia worked the whole day to distribute the books. They have perfected the system so well that now it takes just an hour to distribute books to 2000 students. Then they decided to buy the books straight from the publishers so that they could get the same at a discount price. Till date about 50,000 students belonging to all streams including arts, science, engineering, medical, law, etc. have benefited. Out of the 50,000 beneficiaries, 99% are non-Jains. Only a meagre amount is collected as deposit from the students. Seeing the success of the project, Shri Ashok Gehlot, then Member of Parliament, sought the assistance of Shri Dugar and implemented a similar project in Jodhpur. Shri Dugar, who is on the board of various trusts and organisations, is also involved with the SS Jain Educational Society, Research Foundation for Jainology, etc. He has also played a great role in starting the Jawanthraj Tejraj Surana School and Pusibai Tejraj Surana School in George Town.

Speaking of contribution to education, the role Shri Sugalchand Jain plays is different. His father Shri Nathmal Singhvi had moved from Siyat in Rajasthan to Madurantakam and then to Chennai. He always lent a helping hand to those in need, at the cost of his needs at times. With such a benevolent father as a role model, Shri Sugalchand learnt early in life, the spirit of giving. Shri Nathmal had the habit of setting aside an '*anna*' a day, for the cause of the needy. When a ten-year-old Sugal started visiting his father's shop, his father began setting aside two '*annas*'. Imbibing the importance of sharing at such a young age, his resolve was further strengthened by his uncle and a Jain sadhu. They suggested that he set a limit for his wealth, beyond which he donate to the society. With that in mind Shri Sugalchand has founded various trusts to help those in need. He supports many needy children by giving them scholarships for their studies. He has constructed a school at his birth place, Siyat. His plans to establish a science college at Siyat is under consideration of the state government. But the one that needs special mention is Bhagwan Mahaveer Foundation. The foundation has instituted three awards, one being for excellence in the fields of education and

medicine, another for excellence in the field of community and social service and the third one for excellence in the field of non-violence and vegetarianism. Some of the recipients for excellence in education and medicine include Sri Avinashilingam Education Trust Institutions, Coimbatore, Aravind Eye Hospital and PG Institute of Ophthalmology, Madurai and Marudhar Mahila Shikshan Sangh, Rajasthan.

On the other hand, Jains' contribution to various causes have been recognised with many awards, citations and responsible posts. Shri Lalchand Dadha and his family were honoured with the 'Hathi Shiropa' and his sons with the 'Palki Shiropa' by the Maharaja of Jodhpur. Shri Ugamraj Mootha has held positions in various trade bodies over the years. But the most important honour he received was the post of Under Sheriff of Madras at the age of thirty-two, when Shri Sunderlal Nahata was the Sheriff. The youngest Jain to have held the post, it was in recognition of his social standing and contribution to the society. Shri Ratanchand Savansukha of Team Trust has been conferred with 'Vijay Shree Award' by International Friendship Society of Delhi, 'Seva Ratna Award' by Centenarian Trust, and 'Best Citizen Award' by International Publishing House, Delhi and 'Best Educationist Award' by the Government of India. Shri Sugarchand Jain has received 'Rajasthan Sri', 'Sewa Ratna', 'Manav Mitra' and 'For the sake of Honour Award' for his services in various fields. The latest honour a Jain has received is the nomination of Shri Harish Metha as syndicate member to the University of Madras by the governor and government of Tamilnadu. First Jain to be nominated for the post, it is in recognition of his educational services and a responsibility to do more for the cause of education.

Compared to the number of Jains, their contribution to the cause of education is truly commendable. A brief about each educational institution run by them is furnished in this book.

SHRI SWETHAMBER STANAKWASI JAIN EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

Sixty-six years of existence with six educational institutions under its umbrella, the S.S. Jain Educational Society has had three generations of Jains lending their hands in starting and nurturing its growth. As it was the only Jain Society then, almost every Jain in Chennai has been involved in its activities, which they still consider a privilege.

In the mid-thirties, Jain monks Shri Tarachand Maharaj, Shri Krishnalal Maharaj and Shri Sowbhagchand Maharaj visited Madras. During their spiritual discourses, they emphasised the need of guiding the younger generation by providing education to every one irrespective of caste, creed or religion. They encouraged the Jain community to take the initiative in this direction. While every one was motivated by the words of the holy men, a few were deeply influenced by them to jump into action immediately. Notable among them were Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Inderchand Galada, Shri Jabarchand Galada, Shri Tarachand Galada, Shri Roopchand Khivsera, Shri Mangichand Bhandari and Shri Jaswantmull Chordia.

Their efforts took shape in the form of Sri Swetamber Stanakwasi Jain Educational Society, which was formed in November, 1937. A year later, it was registered under the Societies Registration Act. The society started functioning with twenty five executive committee members with Shri Mohanmull Chordia as the Founder President and Shri Tarachand Galada as the General Secretary. While all committee members were from banking and business, Shri Jaswantmull Kumbhat was employed with the Southern Railway, a rarity then. The committee also had members from Villupuram, Tindivanam and Bangalore. The meticulous planning and professional

approach in running the society is obvious, as can be seen from its booklet on rules and regulations.

The purpose with which the Society was established was to manage the existing SS Jain Boarding School, to establish and manage educational institutions including schools and colleges, to establish boarding schools and to grant scholarships to deserving Jain students. Immediately on formation, the Society set about to work on the goals it had set itself. It took over the Jain Gyan Patasala, which had been established as early as in 1926 and was being run by the elders of the Jain community. This school is now known by the name of Sri Badalchand Sayarchand Chordia Jain Vidyalaya.

When students from various places came to Madras for education, the Society decided to start the SS Jain Boarding Home. In 1940, Shri Bhagchand Galada, who had been active in the freedom struggle movement, as his family found out later, pitched in. Shri Bhagchand, son of Shri Tarachand Galada came forward to give his centrally located property measuring 33 grounds, to the society at a very nominal cost. Shri Jawantmull Chordia made a generous donation towards construction of the building. Along with monetary contributions from others of the community, the building in Madley Road, T. Nagar was completed in 1942. Shri Birdichand Marlecha also made a handsome donation for the maintenance and upkeep of the Home. Depending on the economic status, some students were offered free boarding and lodging and some were charged only 50% of the fees. The SS Jain Boarding Home catered to an average of 150 to 175 students per year. Some of the alumni who have distinguished themselves include Shri Kanchanmal Bothra, Shri Jaitmal Chordia, Shri Shantilal, Shri Sampatraj Kataria and Shri Sampatmull Chordia.

In quick succession the society established Shri Amoluckchand Galada Jain School, Shri Tarachand Galada Jain Vidyalaya, Agurchand Manmull Jain College, Shri Mangichand Bhandari Jain School and the Mohanmull Chordia Jain Industrial Training Centre.

As the concept of residential schools caught on and students preferred staying with relatives, the boarding home had to be closed down a few years back. The society has now taken the initiatives to start a women's college in the boarding home premises.

Institutions under the wings of the Society:

Agurchand Manmull Jain College
Sri Tarachand Galada Jain Vidyalaya
Shree Amoluckchand Galada Jain Higher Secondary School
Shri Mangichand Bhandari Jain Higher Secondary School
Sri Badalchand Sayarchand Chordia Jain Vidyalaya
Mohanmull Chordia Jain Industrial Training Centre

**AGURCHAND MANMULL JAIN COLLEGE
MEENAMBAKKAM
CHENNAI 600114**

The pathway to the college building is flanked by the cricket ground, volleyball and basketball courts among others. Teams are practicing for a forthcoming tournament with such vigour and concentration that they are oblivious to the passing trains and droning planes. Little wonder that the cups and shields they bring adorn the college. With such calm and serenity prevailing over the campus, but for the occasional chugging train, the students are provided with the right ambience for their studies.

The statue of Shri Mohanmull Chordia strikes a grandiose posture like a guardian angel, facing the magnificent white building. The central landscaped courtyard surrounded by well-ventilated classrooms, speaks volumes for the visions of the founding fathers of this college.

During one of her spiritual discourses, her holiness Shri Sayer Kanwar Maharaj exhorted the Jain community to establish a college of higher education. Because by then the S S Jain Educational Society was running three schools. The Jain students mostly took to business after completion of schooling. Some of them joined the Pachiappa's College. Shri Parasmull Chordia, Son of Shri Mohanmull Chordia evinced a keen interest in helping others and would help Jain students get admission in Pachiappa's College every year. Once when he took nearly ten students for admission, the then Principal Shri Narasimhan Iyer told him, "Instead of bringing so many students to me every year, why don't you start a college?" When Shri Parasmull brought this to his father's notice, he thought it over. This casual remark, coupled with the call by her holiness Shri Sayer Kanwar Maharaj triggered Shri Mohanmull Chordia into action; and the seeds were sown for Shri Agurchand Manmull Jain College, named after Shri Mohanmull's great grandfather and grandfather respectively.

The college was inaugurated in June 1952, by the then Governor of Madras Sri Sriprakasa and it started functioning in the Boarding Home premises at T. Nagar. The visionary Shri Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar, the then Vice Chancellor of Madras University, advised the Society to choose a property with a vast area that was close to a railway station. With a generous donation from Shri Mohanmull Chordia, the present premises in Meenambakkam were decided upon, to start the college. With the popularity enjoyed by Shri Mohanmull Chordia, many of his business associates and clients in the transport business too contributed enthusiastically. Cutting across caste and community lines, people donated not only for the cause education, but also because it was for a cause close to Shri Chordia's heart. From Trichur and Turaiyur, from Nellore and Vellore contributions flowed. With contribution from Jain donors as well and with the supervision by Shri Mangichand Bhandari, the college was ready in 1954. It was a unique occasion since it was blessed by two stalwarts in the field of education. Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan, the then Vice President of India laid the foundation stone on the third January 1954. And Dr. A. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar presided over the inaugural function.

Shri Mohanlal Chordia of Mylapore and Shri Kailashmull Dugar remember the ground work done by the first Principal, Shri Narasimhan from Andhra and the second Principal Shri A L Krishnan in establishing the college. The first Secretary of the college Shri B M Kumbhat also did exemplary work for the institution. In a fitting tribute, the college has raised the B M Kumbhat Memorial Block, which was inaugurated by Shri Ghanshyamdas Birla in 1964. Immediately on formation, the college gained so much of reputation that there was always a competition between A M Jain, Loyola and Vivekananda College, in terms of position. With its reputation, proximity to bus and railway stations and the number of courses on offer, the college attracts a lot of students. It ranks among the Research and Postgraduate institutions. There are four research departments – M.Phil and PhD in Physics, with full time and part time options, M.Phil in Mathematics and Ph.D in Economics. There are eight under graduate courses and five post graduate courses in commerce, chemistry, economics, maths and physics. For the convenience of employed people, an evening college has also been started. This offers seven UG and PG courses. The college has started admitting women students too. Shri Sardarmull Chordia son of the founder Shri Mohanmull Chordia has been serving as the secretary of the college from 1990 onwards. He and the associate secretary Shri Ajit Kumbhat constantly upgrade facilities and courses

As part of co-curricular activities, each department has an association, besides Philosophy Association and Planning Forum. A counseling and guidance bureau functions in the college, where experienced faculty take care of academic and non-academic problems faced by the students. The NSS unit of the college has been functioning since 1970. The unit members organize programmes for upliftment of the economically and socially backward people, adult literacy programmes etc. There are two wings of NCC, namely Artillery and Signals. The cadets are trained so that they can appear for B and C certificate examinations. Each year the freshers are given a thorough medical inspection.

The college has various scholarships and tuition fee concessions for deserving students. Besides, the college recommends students for various external scholarships, like National Merit and Loan scholarship, defence scholarship, scholarship for the physically handicapped and a few others.

**SRI TARACHAND GALADA JAIN VIDYALAYA
44 – MADLEY FIRST STREET
T.NAGAR, CHANNAI – 600017.**

The unmistakable calls of sunbirds and tailorbirds and flitting butterflies greet the visitor as one enters this spacious campus. Though it is lunch break, surprisingly all is quiet. For the children are seated neatly in rows, having their lunch. The staff and the assistants must be credited for conditioning the young minds against wasting of food; for, the students are so disciplined that they hardly spill food.

Ever since Ms. Sita Ranjit took over as principal in 1996, the management has experimented with modern and creative approaches to education and found them a great success. Most notable being the 'No Book Day' that is held once in 15 or 20 days. The students do not bring their books to school that day, but spend their time in outdoor learning, quizzes, field trips and games. Introduced in 2001, the 'No Book Day' is very popular among the children. As most of the students are first generation learners from economically poor background, efforts are taken to educate them in non-academic areas too. To inspire them, lives of great men are read out to them in the vernacular. The students are encouraged with motivation cards for various aspects like hygiene, discipline, punctuality, etc. The student with the maximum number of cards wins a prize.

One of their outdoor activities include the kitchen garden-which was the secret behind the welcoming call of the sunbirds. The students have grown corn and rice here. Okra and greens vie for space with drumstick, lime, guava and banana trees. The students contribute rice, dhal and oil, which are distributed to charitable institutions. They are also taken to these institutions, not to expose them to the dismal side of life, but to show them how blessed they are. These visits have made them compassionate. Recently they made greeting cards, which they sent to patients at Cancer Institute.

The students here are brought up with a secular outlook. For they are equally adept at Gita, Jain tenets, Tirupavai, Thirukkural, etc. And all festivals including Onam and Kolu are celebrated with much enthusiasm. The school does not believe in corporal punishment; but this has not spoilt the child.

The teachers are also encouraged with motivation cards. They are made to indulge themselves in games as a means of relaxation. These bring out the child in every teacher and paves way for a better bonding with the students.

As the parents are from a very economically weak background, the school has done its bit to make it easier for them to pay the nominal fees. When a Mahila branch of the Canara Bank was opened in the vicinity of the school, the students' mothers were encouraged to start accounts. This helps them deposit in small amounts as and when they get money, enabling them to pay the added up money as fees for their wards.

As the young minds imbibe things when they are practiced rather than preached. The students have learnt not to discriminate and to give credit where it is due. For the school has fully utilized the potential and latent talents of non-teaching staff and some parents. The school assistant gives instructions on kolam, the peon doubles up as a cricket coach, the watchman from UP with a farming background gives tips in the garden, a home-maker mother takes mehendi classes, a father who is a plumber gives lessons in plumbing and so on. On the other hand, the newspapers and magazines like Wisdom and Business World and informal talks on entrepreneurship give the students a broader outlook.

This multiprong approach on academic, career and practical aspects of life, ensure that the students have an all-round development, something that was envisaged by the founders when we broke the shackles of the British. As the students of the S.S. Jain Boarding Home had to commute to Sowcarpet everyday, the S.S. Jain Eduational Society felt the need for a Hindi medium school in south Chennai. So in 1948, a branch of the S.S. Jain Boarding School was opened in T.Nagar within the S.S. Jain Boarding Home Campus. In 1954, it was inaugurated as a full-fledged primary school by minister Shri M. Bakthavatsalam and was renamed as Tarachand Galada Jain Vidyalaya in honour of the contribution made by the Shri Tarachand Galada Trust. Government recognition and grant-in-aid status were granted in 1955. With many philanthropists chipping in, the present three-storeyed building with modern amenities was constructed in 1973. To cater to the latest trends in education, a nursery section was started in 1985. To meet the changing needs, the school became an English medium one in 1990 and subsequently was upgraded to a high school under the Matriculation Board. The first set of tenth students will be appearing for their board exams in 2004. A family trust has donated towards upgradation of infrastructure and a computer center with ten systems was inaugurated in memory of late Shri Pannalal Nahar.

With the cooperation of correspondent Shri Prasanchand Bagmar and secretary Shri Vijay Dugar, the authorities are able to steer the school smoothly in its path of development.

**SHREE AMOLUCKCHAND GALADA JAIN HIGHER SEC. SCHOOL
19, THULASINGAM STREET
SOWCARPET, CHENNAI – 79.**

One of the institutions to have come up before independence, the seeds for this boys' school were sown on the 12th of June 1940. It was founded under the banner of S.S. Jain Educational Society by a team of dedicated Jains notably Shri Inderchand Galada, Shri Deepchand Khimsura, Shri Tarachand Galada, Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Jaisinghlalbai, Shri Sirumal Khimsura and Shri Mangichand Bhandari. In

recognition of the generosity of Shri Inderchand Galada in establishing the school, it was named in memory of his father.

Shri Inderchand Galada was born to a respectable Jain family in Saidapet in 1953. He was adopted by Shri Amoluckchand Galada, who had migrated from Kuchera village in Rajasthan. As a boy of ten, Amoluckchand came to Madras with a relative and slowly established himself. His son Shri Inderchand Galada who had his education in Saidapet rose to become one of the prominent bankers of his time and founded the Galada Bank Limited. A pious and generous man by nature, he spent his time and resources on education and medical relief. He was one of the founding fathers of the Shri Swethamber Stanakwasi Jain Educational Society in 1937, which in turn established Shri Amoluckchand Galada Jain High School. He played an active role in Jain Medical Relief Society and was an active crusader in SPCA. He founded an Ayurvedic hospital in his ancestral village Kuchera. His legacy was continued by his wife and now by his heirs.

Making a beginning in the same premises where it stands today, the main building of the school was inaugurated in 1946 and received government recognition and grant-in-aid status in 1947. To cope with the increasing number of students joining the school, another building was added in 1961. It had Hindi, Tamil and English as the mediums of instruction. And Gujarati was available as a language option. The school follows the two-language system and the higher secondary courses are offered only in English. In higher secondary, Maths group with computer science, Commerce and Accountancy groups, with options of Business Maths, Computer Science and Economics are offered. The courses are students-specific as most of them are from a business background. The headmaster Shri A. Sriramulu cites non-availability of students as the reason. He says Hindi and English are the preferred mediums of instruction. Even those who finish their high schooling in their native place in Rajasthan and come to Chennai for their higher secondary education opt for English medium. Even as a language, Gujarati had no takers and hence it is not being offered now. Still the school is proud of its multilingual approach as English, Tamil and Hindi continue to be the mediums of instruction.

Started as a high school, it was upgraded in 1978 when the Government of Tamil Nadu chose it for the introduction of the 10 + 2 system or Higher Secondary courses. To keep pace with the changes in education system, a Computer Awareness program was introduced way back in 1992 and a modern computer education with internet facility in 2000. These programs are done in cooperation with NIIT. Under the Computer Awareness program the students are taught the basics of computers. In addition to this, the staff from NIIT teach the computer science syllabus of the State Board. The course material for the Computer Awareness program is supplied by NIIT. The certificate issued by them benefits the students in many ways. With a total of 33 computers, there are 2 labs, one for the high school students and the other for the higher secondary students. A well – stocked library with 25,000 titles with some rare books numbering to 1600 in Gujarati is a pride of the school.

Following the syllabus of the Board of Secondary Education of Tamil Nadu, the school produces a 90% pass result in higher secondary.

To bring out and improve the talents of the students, various co – curricular activities are held. These include Literary, Interact, Karuna, Audiovisual and Karate clubs. Various seminars, workshops and personality development programs are held for the students as well as teachers. The Arts & Science exhibition organized by the school in 2000, had 26 schools participating, showing their scientific bent of mind. The staff nurture and hone the skills of the students, enabling them to win prizes in

competitions, notable among them being the prize won in the environmental camp at Dehradun. Scouts, Junior Red cross, NCC, NSS and RSP are organized in such a way that students in sixth and seventh standards join Scouts, seventh and eighth JRC, eighth and ninth NCC, ninth and eleventh RSP and eleventh students the NSS. The NCC & JRC have been functioning since 1957 and 1974 respectively. Out of the eight Naval units of NCC in Tamil Nadu, the school boasts of two units of fifty students each. For three consecutive years, NSS camps were held at Kodungaiyur. This year it will be held in Tambaram during the half-yearly vacation.

The school has taken commendable steps in improving the performance of the students and the staff. An open day is held after quarterly and half-yearly examinations, where the parents get to have a one - to - one discussion with the Headmaster, Assistant Headmaster and teachers. Taking the staff on picnics help them relax and shed inhibitions, increasing their efficiency & camaraderie.

And it is not all work and no play. The regular physical education classes are held in the Rajasthani Association Corporation Playground. The students regularly participate and win laurels in interschool and zonal sports competitions, high jump, hurdles, long jump and shotput being their forte. A notable achievement was the selection of two students to play cricket at state level. And the present correspondent Shri Vimal Galada with his keen interest in sports has instituted The Galada Rolling Trophy for cricket and volleyball at Inter School level. The tournaments are being conducted every year ever since its inception in 1997.

To encourage the students in their academic, co - curricular and sports pursuits, various donors have instituted awards and prizes. For academics, a total of thirty-three endowment awards and for sports eight endowment awards are being given. And the students themselves are not lagging when it comes to giving. For, the students contribute liberally to implement the government's midday meal program. And various members of the old students' association too contribute scholarships, uniforms, and notebooks for the economically weak. Members of various clubs like NSS, JRC, etc. collect old clothes and hand them over to the Red Cross Society.

The notable feature of this school is that most of its alumni have become well-known traders and businessmen, providing ample employment opportunities for the local people. Shri Sugachand Jain the brain behind this book is an alumnus of this school.

SHRI MANGICHAND BHANDARI JAIN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
NO. : 7, MADLEY ROAD
CHENNAI - 600 017

Shri S.S. Jain Educational Society felt the need for a Hindi medium high school in South Chennai. As Shri Tarachand Galada School had only primary classes, the society decided to start a Hindi medium high school so that the students from the former school could continue their studies in the latter. As Shri Hansraj Bhandari and Shri Inderchand Bhandari came forward to establish the school, it was named after their father Shri Mangichand Bhandari who was one of the founders of S.S Jain Educational Society. So on the 14th of July in 1970, Shri Mangichand Bhandari High School was inaugurated in a rented building in Ramaswami Street of T. Nagar.

As the primary school functioned as a feeder school, Shri Mangichand Bhandari High School made a beginning with a considerable strength of 179 students, all of whom were Jains. In due course of time, the school received government recognition

and grant-in-aid status. The correspondent Shri Sayarchand Nahar took upon himself the task of housing the school in its own premises. He and Shri Kailashmull Dugar were instrumental in collecting funds. With further donations from the Bhandari family, a land was purchased at Madley Road and a spacious building was constructed.

In 1986, the management decided to make the school a co-educational one and six girls were admitted. However for various reasons the plan was withdrawn. The school was upgraded to a higher secondary school in 1988. The higher secondary courses in Science and Commerce streams are offered only in English. As per the changing trends, English as a medium of instruction was introduced in 1989. Besides academic activities the students have a literary club and are adept in cricket, volleyball and kabadi.

The dual mediums of instruction and the courses offered, combined with the good track record of the school under the tutelage of Shri R.K. Tripathi has brought in more students. For now, of the student strength, only 7% are Jains, compared to the 100% in the beginning. Shri Tripathi came to Madras from Gorakhpur in UP when he was in his early twenties. He worked in Jain Hindi Primary School and also in AG Jain High School. Though he was an intermediate when he came to Madras, the thirst for knowledge made him study further. Slowly he worked his way up finishing his postgraduation and teacher training course. He guided the school for eighteen years, from 1972 till his retirement in 1990. He continues to serve the school as its advisor. But the honorarium he receives is given back for the cause of education - in the form of endowment awards in his parents' names.

To encourage students in their pursuits, various trusts have formed endowment prizes. On the academic front, Sri Sumati Vishal Jain Endowment Trust, Madann Nahar Foundation Trust, Nemichand Mahavirchand Dugar Trust and Rajmal Amarchand Chajjer Trust have instituted awards for various subjects in the twelfth standard. Abhayraj Prize is given for the topper in eleventh standard and G.K. Shetty Prize and Gouthamchand Lodha Prize for the topper in tenth standard. For sports, Sayarchand Nahar Trophy, Duleechand Trophy, Jain Yuva Manch Endowment Prize and Jagdeyee Prabhavati Ramlakhan Tripathi prize are given. Amravati Ramkishore Tripathi Prize is given for literary accomplishment. Through Rajwanti Shripathi Tripathi Scholarship, school fees for the economically backward students are paid, by which fifteen students are benefited.

Correspondent Shri VijayKumar Jain and secretary Shri Ramesh Dugar along with the advisor Shri R. K. Tripathi are extending all possible encouragement to the present headmaster Shri G. Ramalingam in upgrading the school's facilities for better academic and overall development of the students. The management has provided the necessary visual and audiovisual educational aids. The school under the leadership of Shri Ramalingam has been producing 100% results in twelfth and more than ninety percent pass in tenth standard board exams.

**SRI BADALCHAND SAYARCHAND CHORDIA JAIN VIDYALAYA
38, GENERAL MUTHIAH STREET
CHENNAI – 600 079**

The oldest Jain school in the city celebrated its Platinum Jubilee in 2001. It takes the credit for being the first Hindi medium school and first Jain school. The Jains in Sowcarpet joined hands together and founded a Hindi medium school on 29 December 1926, naming it as Sri Jain Gyan Patasala. It was managed with the contributions from members of the community.

When the Sri S.S.Jain Educational Society was founded in 1937, it took over the school and renamed the same as the 'Jain Hindi Primary School'. As the demand for admissions grew, the society decided to expand the school. In 1953, it acquired the school's present building in General Muthiah Street. In 1955 it added more classrooms and a separate prayer hall. The school, following the state board syllabus, received government recognition and grant-in-aid status in 1957. The great philanthropist brothers, Shri Badalchand Chordia and Shri Sayarchand Chordia, sons of Shri Simrathmal Chordia from Nokha have helped construct the new building with their monetary contribution. In recognition of their generosity, the school has been renamed as Shri Badalchand Sayarchand Chordia Jain Vidyalaya.

To cater to the changing educational needs of the society, kindergarten was introduced in 1984 and a separate wing was introduced in 1994 under the matriculation board so that students could opt for an English medium education.

The management and staff stress on the overall development of the child and have various activities other than the curriculum. Students are introduced to computers in kindergarten itself and they are allowed to work on the computer. Clubs in the school include Arts and Crafts, Science and Maths among others. The students involve themselves in Club activities right from kindergarten. The clubs have so many programs that almost every week a competition is held. As part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations the school conducted a fete that saw six hundred students from forty schools take part in various competitions. The students of the Vidyalaya also bring laurels from competitions conducted by other schools. Some of the notable achievements are the prizes won in 'Best out of Waste', dance, quiz, elocution and fancy dress competitions. The students are regularly taken on field and educational trips.

The management encourages the staff also to add more qualifications. They are encouraged to attend orientation programmes and workshops. They are also trained in computers by arranging for training in the school premises. All the teachers attended the 'Mitra Course' on personality development, which in turn would help them mould the students in a better way. They have also qualified as Trainers for JRC. The staff members too go for field trips with those from other schools of the Society.

To encourage the students Shri Ashok Kumar Mehta has instituted the 'Sri Sarjoo Devi Mehta Trust Endowment' from which prizes are given for best performance in sports, handwriting and best student. Shri Devraj S. Jain has instituted 'Sri S.Devraj Mohani Bai Trust Endowment' for proficiency in Music & Religion. Shri Shanti Kumbhat has instituted 'Smt. Chand Kumari Jaswantlal Kumbhat Endowment Award' for best performance in Dance and Drama.

**MOHANMULL CHORDIA JAIN INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRE
2, GOVINDASAMY STREET
MEENAMBAKKAM
CHENNAI – 600 114**

Shri Mohanmull Chordia, the founder president of Shri S.S. Jain Educational Society - which is now running the institute - desired the Society to give importance to

technical education also. In 1984, the then secretary of the Society Shri P. Bhandari and associate secretary Shri Kailashmull Dugar took upon the task of fulfilling the dreams of Shri Mohanmull Chordia. With able support from Shri Mohanmull's son Shri Parasmull, the Industrial Training Centre was started - adjacent to the AM Jain College - in Shri Mohanmull's memory in 1984 with a generous contribution from members of the community. The present building was inaugurated by the then vice president Shri R. Venkatraman in July 1986.

Established with the aim of producing skilled workers, the centre takes in people who have completed schooling up to tenth standard. Started with an initial strength of 36 students, the institute has been successfully sending out hundreds of students every year. The institute conducts two-year courses for Motor Vehicle Mechanic, Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Mechanic, Electronic Mechanic and Draughtsman courses in Mechanical and Civil streams. The center also conducts three months short-term courses in various disciplines. Of these, Motor Rewinding, Plumbing and TV service are the popular ones drawing nearly forty students every year. Another short-term course on offer is Electrical Maintenance, which is for six months. All these courses equip the students for self-employment.

Recognised by the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT), the centre has 240 students on its roll for the two-year courses. Every year the NCVT conducts skill competitions for each discipline in State level. Students from the centre have excelled in State level competitions and went on to win prizes at All-India level. The students are equally adept at athletics, football, volleyball and badminton. They have won many state level prizes in track and team events. The centre too organises District level, Regional level and State level sports for the private and government ITIs.

Being on a five-acre property, the centre has added new buildings for workshops and classrooms to cater to the growing number of students. The new buildings were inaugurated two years back by Shri T.R. Baalu, union minister.

The principal Shri Ethirajulu who has been guiding the center for nine years has put his rich experience as the principal of government Industrial Training Institute into very good use here. Other than the short-term courses he introduced, A Life Skills Program is also being conducted. Various companies collaborate with the center and send people for training. On successful training, the personnel are absorbed by the companies. For Ford India Limited, the center has trained 400 boys and 200 girls with higher secondary qualifications. After the Life Skills Program training, which varies between four and nine weeks depending on the skills to be imparted, the candidates were absorbed as Production Technicians. Similarly for Igarashi Motors India Ltd., forty women were trained. Depending on the requirement, if necessary, experts in the field are brought in as trainers on a part time basis.

The centre also has facilities for recruitment processes. The centre conducts aptitude test, manual dexterity test, interviews and group discussions. Companies like Ford India Limited and St. Gobain Glass Industry send the applicants to the center. Fifty to seventy times the number of personnel required is screened by the center where the candidates go through written tests, interviews, etc. Rotary Club, Sri Ramakrishna Math, Slum Clearance Board, THADCO, Department of backward and most backward communities, Ford India, NTTF, CR Seals, Airport Authority, Centre for Vocational Education, Godrej, Centre for Excellence in Organisations Pvt. Ltd. and Igarashi Motors India Ltd. are some of the companies that utilize the services of the centre for recruiting and / or training their personnel in various disciplines.

The well-stocked library with more than six hundred titles help the trainees improve their theoretical knowledge also.

With its training and moulding of candidates towards employment opportunities, what the centre is doing, is in reality, a service to the society. The college administration encouraged by secretary Shri Sardarmull Chordia and associate secretary Shri Ajit Kumbhat plans to start Rural Electrification and Home Appliances Repairs and Maintenance courses in the academic year 2004.

TAMILNADU EDUCATIONAL AND MEDICAL TRUST

The Trust was founded in 1972 by founder-promoter trustees namely Shri C. Ratanchand Savansukha, Dr.C.L. Metha, Shri S. Suganmal Jain, Shri Sundarlal Nahata and Shri R. Dayachand Savansukha. The Trust was formed with the objective of providing quality education to the society in general and Jain community in particular. Started with the aim of offering educational services in the fields of Arts, Science and Engineering, the Trust now runs the MNM Jain Engineering College and DB Jain College.

The Trust proposes to give interest free educational loans from the next academic year. Future plans of the Trust include introduction of PG courses in MNM Jain Engineering College, getting ISO 2001 certification and accreditation for both the colleges and establishment of a business school.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Dhanraj Baid Jain College

Misrimal Navajee Munoth Jain Engineering College

**DHANRAJ BAID JAIN COLLEGE
JOTHI NAGAR, THORAPAKKAM
CHENNAI – 600 096**

Set in a sprawling campus in the outskirts of the city, DB Jain College has been in the forefront of educational service for over thirty years. The word 'service' should be stressed; because, owing to the locality and nominal fees without any donation attracts a lot of first generation learners. If one has to go by numbers, 90% of the students belong to the socially and economically backward classes and the college strives to help them join the mainstream.

Shri Seth Dhanraj Baid came to Chennai in 1903 from Lashkar in Madhya Pradesh. Within a few years, he established his business well and in the 1930s and 1940s, he contributed generously towards the welfare of the society. Then he willed his entire property to be used for higher education. This resulted in the founding of the DB Jain College. The college was started on the 30th June 1972 with the now obsolete PUC. Now it offers five UG courses, three PG courses and has a separate research department with facilities for undertaking part time & full time regular research towards M.Phil & Ph.D degrees. For the sake of employed, an evening college is functioning with five UG courses on offer. MCA course, which is self-financing, has also been introduced. One of the regular UG courses being offered is an off-beat Co-operation Course. Even in the language paper, other than the regular Tamil and Hindi, Telugu and

French are the options. Affiliated to the Madras University, the college has been receiving grant from 1978.

Hailing as they are, from a poor background, most of the students need an extra effort to sail through their studies. And the source of inspiration for the students is none other than their own faculty. For the achievement of the faculty members is too long to be listed. The department of Commerce scores over the others in this regard. While almost everyone has published national and international papers, Dr. K. Sankaran serves as the visiting faculty and examiner for Pondicherry, Alagappa and Annamalai Universities. Dr. V. Balu who is currently the Controller of Exams at Madras University has published more than ten books, two of which received the 'Best Book Award' of the Tamil Nadu Government. Many of his books have been recommended as textbooks. Shri Sudarsanam, Dr. K. B. Chandrasekaran and Dr. Sakthivel Murugan too have published books and the latter's guidance has produced 6 Ph.Ds and 20 M.Phils from the college. The management credits the exemplary works of these professors in receiving a recent UGC grant. Dr.P.S.R.Murthy and Shri Balagangadharan too have many academic accomplishments to their credit. Notable among the achievements of Dr.S. Kannan and Dr.E.J. Sundar of Tamil Department is that the former's thesis has been published by TTD, Tirupathi and the latter's is used as a textbook at Madras University and two city colleges.

The management, which appoints such dedicated staff also constantly, upgrades the infrastructures. The college library, which has already bagged the Best Library Award, is being revamped and computerized. The library boasts of more than 22,000 titles. Audio-visual, photocopying, Internet facilities, a separate rest area for the girl students, an indoor auditorium are some of the developments on the anvil. The college brings out a magazine to whet the creative appetite of the students and staff. A co-operative store to supply stationery and other requirements is functioning in the campus. Plans are on to extend its activities to give practical training to Cooperation course students.

With the guidance of the faculty, the students outshine others in competitions conducted by other institutions. Each department has a club that conducts various seminars, workshops and related activities. NCC, NSS and Bharath Scouts and Guides are active in the campus and attract many students. NCC cadets have represented the State in the Republic Day parade and have received Best Cadet titles. They went on trekking and cycling expeditions, the latter to promote communal harmony. The NSS members strive to create awareness about various social issues including female infanticide, blood donation and consumer rights. In the extra-curricular activities too, the faculty members serve as role models to students. Shri E.R. Gopalakrishnan of Corporate Secretaryship department has published books on yoga, is involved in theatre, classical music and dance among many others. Dr.A. Ramesh of Commerce department initiates students into astronomy and star watching. Shri Kumar, a computer faculty and Dr. Seshagiri Rao, Telugu professor are involved with NGOs and social service activities. The latter runs a home for the mentally challenged and conducts five medical camps in a month. With the example they have set, many students have learnt that education and social service can go hand in hand.

With the excellent coaching and guidance of the staff, the students have had a good start in their career in some of the best Corporates. Covansys, Sutherland Technologies and Nittany are some of the top companies where the students of DB Jain College have found employment.

As many of the students are from economically weaker sections, the college administration takes all efforts to ease the financial strain on the students and their

parents. Apart from scholarships from private Trusts like Maharani Vidyavathi Devi Estate, the college arranges for State and Central government scholarships and loans under various categories. For the students who excel in academics and extra-curricular activities, Sri Champalal Savansukha Charitable Trust, Sutti magazine, Kalyanmal Prakashmal Chordia Trust and Prakashmal Bhandari Trust have instituted various prizes. For sports and athletics Sri Ramano Rao, Thiagaradha, Surana and Dhanraj Baid Rolling shields and trophies for various team games have been instituted.

With the changing trends in the educational system, the college too keeps revamping itself to be in tune with and on par with the rest.

**MISRIMAL NAVAJEE MUNOTH JAIN ENGINEERING COLLEGE
JYOTHI NAGAR
THORAPAKKAM
CHENNAI – 600 096**

Set in a sprawling twenty-acre campus in the outskirts of Chennai with abundant verdancy around, the college offers an excellent ambience for the students to pursue their studies.

The inspiration for the college came from His Holiness Guru Marudhar Kesari in 1980 during his spiritual courses. He exhorted the community to start an engineering college. Later in the year, GuruDev Shri Roop Muniji Maharaj along with the disciples of late His Holiness Marudhar Kesari came on a padayatra to Chennai. He too urged the community to start an engineering college in Guruji's remembrance and to fulfil his dream. Dr.C.L. Metha, owing to his dedication and experience, was entrusted with the work.

When the Team Trust decided to establish a polytechnic, Shri M. Lalchand Munoth, Chairman of the Trust gave a considerable donation to meet the initial expenses. Misrimal Navajee Munoth Jain Polytechnic named after Shri Lalchand's father thus came into being in 1984. With contributions from various quarters and again by Shri Lalchand Munoth, the polytechnic was upgraded into an engineering college in 1994 with the approval of AICTE.

In the ten years, guided by Shri Dr.V.K.R. Jeyasingh who has been Principal right from inception and the Secretary, Shri Harish Metha, the college has grown to an institution to be reckoned with, among the engineering colleges. Started with three branches and 120 students, the college now offers 5 courses and the strength has grown manifold. The reasons for the growth being the efforts taken by the staff and management to provide opportunities and facilities that enable the students to be in touch with the latest technological developments which in turn enhance their career prospects.

The library needs special mention as one of the facilities. The management has modernized the library by adding to the existing stock of nearly 20,000 books, many CDs, CD-ROMs, BIS standards and videocassettes. The college subscribes to more than 150 journals and periodicals. In addition to this, the institution has memberships in various establishments including the British Council Library, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers – USA etc. This helps the students update their knowledge about

international technologies. Internet access has also been provided for the benefit of students and staff.

Every student is assigned to a staff who functions as the student's counsellor, guiding them in their academic and non-academic activities to mould them into better professionals. Besides, the HOD of one of the departments acts as a student counsellor. For the career prospects of the students, a Placement and Training Cell functions in the campus with an additional office of the Cell operating from Bangalore. The Cell has a three-prong approach through its Industry Relations Division, Language & Personality Division and Alumni Division. The last one provides the necessary interface between the industry and the institution. Students of non-computer science departments are also taught the basics of computers to enhance their employment potentials.

The facilities provided have enabled the students to go in for their post-graduation and jobs in prestigious institutes and corporates in India and also in countries like USA, Germany, USSR, UK etc. Two of the alumni have been recruited as staff by their alma mater. The students are encouraged to present technical papers in seminars organized by other institutes. Many students secure university ranks too. Though technical seminars are regular features in the campus, various seminars and workshops are going on to mark the tenth anniversary of the college. The role model for the students in their technical pursuit is none other than the Principal, Shri Jeyasingh himself. He has various papers in national and international journals to his credit, one of which was adjudged as the 'Best Paper' with a cash award, medal and citation.

On the extra-curricular front, various hobby clubs like Fine Arts Club, Photography Club, Radio Club and Rotaract Clubs are functioning in the college. These clubs develop and hone the skills of the students enabling them to participate in & win competitions in inter-college cultural festivals. Rotaract, NSS and Bharat Scouts & Guides also see students take active part in dental and medical camps and various immunisation programmes. The college also brings out a magazine to give shape to the creativity of their students. On the physical education front, facilities include gym, boxing ring, volleyball and cricket courts and various indoor games.

Being a minority institution, 50% seats are allocated for Jains. Jain food is offered in a separate dining hall. Fee concession is also given to deserving students. Jains India Trust and Rajasthan Association are also awarding scholarships to Jain students. Other than these, scholarships through Dr.C.L. Metha Trust help a few students. The college also arranges for the government scholarships applicable to various categories and this benefits more than 80 students. The C.L. Baid Metha Trust also gives cash awards to the topper from each department and overall meritorious student from each branch. Students with 100% attendance also are given prizes. The Trust has instituted a Best Entrepreneur shield. Encouragement is extended to the faculty also in the form of cash awards for their teaching methods and results. Dr.C.L. Metha Book Bank loans textbooks.

With the existing infrastructure and future plans that include starting of PG courses and accreditation and ISO 2001 certification, it would soon be on par with premier institutes. Presently it occupies the sixteenth position among 225 self-financing colleges in Tamil Nadu. But the most prominent feather in its cap is that, it still follows the 'No Capitation fee' policy of the founder, which is a rarity in technical education.

SRI SHWETAMBER STHANAKWASI JAIN SANGH, PERAMBUR

Jains found their niche in Perambur with the arrival of Shri Sadasukh Kochar in the early nineteen hundreds. From Khichun in Jodhpur district, he found his way to

Ahmedabad, journeying on a camel. He then changed trains several times to reach Madras. With others following him, a sizable population settled in Perambur. In 1970, the community decided to start a Hindi medium school and approached members of the Champalal Pagariya Trust.

Shri Champalal Pagariya had come to Madras from Sojat. His wife Smt. Chandabai expired when she was hardly forty. With no heirs, he just continued his business till 1962 when he became very sick. Shri Amarchand Kochar, grandson of the first migrant from Khichun Shri Sadasukh took him under his care. He nursed Shri Pagariya till his last breath in 1969. Earlier Shri Champalal had donated part of his earnings to the Prayer Hall and other social activities. The rest of the money was in Champalal Pagariya Trust's care.

When it was decided to start a school, to formalise the proceedings, Shri Amarchand founded the Sri Shwetamber Sthanakwasi Jain Sangh in 1971, with the active support of Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Pukhraj Bohra, Shri Dhanraj Jain, Shri Vasantraj Khatod Shri Nemichand Vinaykya and Shri Hanuman Daffariya.

In 1972, Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya was founded with Shri Devilal Bomb from Udaipur as the headmaster. As the Sangh could not get government recognition for this school, Shri Champalal Pagariya Jain Middle School was started in 1977 with major contribution from the Champalal Pagariya Trust. The Vidyalaya's staff and students were assimilated into the Middle School and the former was closed down.

The Sangh now runs a matriculation school in the same campus named after Shri Champalal's wife. For this school, the Sangh plans to add more classrooms. There are also proposals from members to start a college and to introduce English medium in the higher secondary classes of Champalal Pagariya Jain Higher Secondary School.

Institutions under the wings of the Sangh:

Shri Champalal Pagariya Jain Hr. Sec. School

Smt Chandabai Pagariya Jain Matriculation Hr. Sec School

**SHRI CHAMPALAL PAGARIYA JAIN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
200, PAPER MILLS ROAD, PERAMBUR
CHENNAI – 600 011**

The school is a beehive of activities. Boys belonging to the lower classes are practicing their jumps through hoops, as part of preparation for the forthcoming Children's Day celebrations. Boys of the higher classes in their high jump stretch are having boisterous fun running under the pole. And during a break, as the girls go quietly about their work, the boys wear themselves out, playing tag and kabadi in the spacious premises. That is Champalal Pagariya Jain Higher Secondary School.

The Jains in Perambur decided to start a Hindi medium school in 1970. So members of Sri Shwetamber Sthanakwasi Jain Community formed a Sangh by the same name and registered it on the 9th of February 1971. Trustees of the Sri Champalal Pagariya Trust and the Sri. S.S. Jain Sangh joined hands and purchased the land on Paper Mills road. The Sri Champalal Pagariya Jain Middle School was started in June 1977 in the same premises with government recognition for sixth, seventh and eighth standards. Ms. Gunabai, who has been an administrative staff from the beginning reels out dates and figures without checking records. Saying they are etched in her memory, she remembers the efforts taken by Shri Devilal Bomb to mould the school in its early

stages. Shri Bomb served as the school's first correspondent. In 1978, the school was upgraded upto ninth standard and in 1979 upto tenth standard. When the management decided to start higher secondary in 1999, five groups were offered with Commerce as the main subject and three optional subjects from a pool of Computer Science, Business Maths, History, Economics and Accountancy. The headmaster Dr.C.L. Pathak then took the initiative and introduced Maths and Biology groups in 2002. In 2003, nursing group was introduced. The school has tied up with Jain Maternity Hospital in Sowcarpet for the practicals of Nursing group. As there was a demand for a Tamil medium school, the management introduced Tamil as a medium of instruction in 1982. In 1997, computer science was introduced for students from sixth standard onwards.

The students periodically take part in blood donation camps and help as volunteers for medical and eye camps held by Lions club. RSP, JRC and Scouts have the active participation of students. The students have made their school proud by their achievements. A student of class ten got eighth rank in the state in SSLC examinations. For two consecutive years the tenth standard students and this year the twelfth standard students have produced 100% results. Be it participation in Independence Day celebration at Marina, Children's day celebration at Red Fort or Republic Day parade at Delhi, the school has been well represented. It is no mean achievement to have students scoring high in science and mathematics consistently. At this year's District level sports meet, where 95 schools participated, two students won prizes in various categories. An alumnus of the school is with the Special Task Force to nab the forest brigand.

The staff too have brought laurels to the school. In 2000, the Lions Club awarded Ms. Arulmozhi, who teaches biology and English, Ms. Shanti Devi, Hindi pandit right from the inception of the school, Ms. Parvati, who teaches social science and the headmaster Dr. C.L. Pathak. The headmaster was also a special invitee at the Republic Day celebrations in 1996 where he was honoured by the then governor Ms. Fathima Beevi. And it was a different kind of an honour for Dr. Pathak when he was asked to head the Champalal Pagariya school by a committee member who had been his student earlier.

Patrons help to encourage the students' endeavors in their own way. Two years back Shri Rikhabchand Bohra and Shri Parasmal Bohra instituted scholarships for poor students by which the fees are paid. The beneficiaries so far have been Jains. Mr. Babulal Mutha has been awarding the school topper in tenth with a gold coin. From 1992, the Acharyamuni Anand Rishiji Maharaj scholarships have been given to economically weaker students by which nearly thirty students are benefited. Though most beneficiaries are Jains, Muslims and Tamils are also helped by the scholarships. The teachers contribute in a different way by staying behind after school hours, to help those who are academically weak.

**SMT. CHANDABAI PAGARIYA JAIN MATRICULATION HIGHER SECONDARY
SCHOOL
200, PAPER MILLS ROAD
PERAMBUR
CHENNAI - 600 011**

As there was a demand for matriculation education through English medium, the management decided to open one in the same campus. With donations from members of the community and a major contribution from the Champalal Pagariya Trust, the high school was started in 1986 with due government approval. In memory of Shri

Champalal's wife, it was named as Smt. Chandabai Pagariya Jain High School. Shri Anraj Bohra was the first correspondent. Primary sections were introduced in 1991 and higher secondary in 1998.

To accommodate the growing number of students, a new block of classrooms and a separate KG block were inaugurated in 2003. In kindergarten, teaching is through play-way method and Montessori concept. Concepts are introduced by assigning a topic to each week, for example Colours of the week, Fruits, Vegetables of the week, etc. A separate area with play equipments is demarcated for the kindergarten students. The school imparts Tamil and Hindi as second and third languages. Students get their computer education from fifth standard onwards and for this purpose, the management has a tie-up with Himayam computers. Students appearing for board exams are given free coaching after school hours. This intensive coaching helps the students score more as there are no distractions in school and has produced rank holders in the board exams.

The administration has introduced some novel concepts to inculcate in the young minds, the importance of sharing, etc. To drive home this point, 'Sharing Day' is celebrated. 'Salad day' is celebrated to let children learn the importance of consuming fruits and vegetables. On Independence Day, primary children dress up as national leaders and go around the locality in bullock carts to bring awareness among the public. This is a big draw with the students as well as the public. Meritorious students are given special badges, which encourage and drive other children to excel in academics. The staff members have their lunch in their respective classrooms; this not only helps the children bond better with the teacher but also allows the teacher to keep an eye on the food intake and table manners of the students.

In extra-curricular activities too the students are encouraged and coached. They participate and win prizes in dance, antakshri, bhaktamar stotra, essay writing, meri bhavna, mehendi and others. In the Emma Foulger Book Fair, two of the school students choreographed a dance for fifty of their schoolmates. They received an award from the governor for this. The school has received the Best Award for overall performance from Sowcarpet Mahila Sthanak. They also present programmes on television and radio. The students are active members in Scouts, RSP, Exnora and Karuna clubs. As part of these clubs' activities they visit ghoshshalas, veterinary hospital, rally for rainwater harvesting and zero garbage, plant saplings in public places and clean the nearby public park. And the management sets an example by installing rainwater harvesting in the school building; the committee members including the correspondent Shri Anil Kumar Bomb and Shri Kantilal Kochar donating blood and undertaking various service projects. On Independence Day, the students also took out a cycle rally to promote peace and harmony.

The management encourages teachers too in various ways. As a means of relaxation, they are sent on picnics. Workshops and seminars are arranged for them inside the campus as well as making them participate in those organised by other schools. The 100% results they achieve in board exams are rewarded with cash awards. This year six teachers have received the awards. More than five members of the faculty have been crowned with the 'Best Teacher Award' by the Rotary club. And in 2003, higher secondary staff Ms. Yamini was awarded the 'Best Teacher Award' of the state government.

Counselling and personality development courses are conducted for the students. Members of the committee Shri Parasmal Bohra has instituted prizes for the rank holders in tenth exams and Shri Rikhabchand Bohra, Shri Gouthamchand, Shri Anil Bomb and Shri Mahaveerchand Daffariya have instituted prizes for twelfth standard

rank holders. Recently Shri Gyanchand Bohra founded endowment awards in memory of his father Shri Motilal Bohra and brother Shri Sohanlal Bohra of Beawar. The management gives scholarships to nearly twenty students under economic considerations. Recognising the work done by the school, some private organisations like Polaris, have come forward to sponsor the education of meritorious students.

In sports too the students have won various district level athletic events. The physical education teacher Shri Prabhakar takes special interest in team games and coaches students for volleyball, kho-kho and kabadi. Fifty students took part in the mini-marathon conducted by Nesam magazines.

The principal Ms. Anandi Thiagarajan is compassionate towards everyone. She addresses everyone including visitors to the school using words of endearment. With a good track record and commendable support from the management, she is guiding the school towards a hundred percent result and perfection.

SHREE JAIN MISSION SOCIETY

The Jain Mission Society was founded on 5th June 1950. Shri Rishabdas Pragwat was instrumental in bringing together the people of the community and forming the society. Shri Pragwat was very religious, philanthropic, knowledgeable and scholarly. He wrote and published various books on Jainism. The main aims of the Society were to establish educational institutions, reading rooms and libraries. Shri J.Pukhraj Jain took the lead and served as secretary of the Society for many years. Apart from establishing the Jain Mission Primary School in 1950, the Society also ran a library for forty years in Mint Street. When the Sri Chandraprabhu Jain Naya Mandir Trust was formed and a new Jain temple was constructed, the library was handed over to the Trust. The present secretary of the Society Shri Babulal Munoth had studied in his hometown in Ramaniya of Barmer district up to third standard and then joined the Jain Mission School when his father migrated to Madras. Similarly the present joint-secretary of the school Shri B. Rikhabdas, the president of the Society Shri J.Gokulchand Jain, former secretary Shri Kantilal Sanghvi are all alumni of Jain Mission school. This helps them steer the school on its development path. The Society plans to shift the English medium school to a new building. When it is shifted, the available space is proposed to be used to start a library and a reading room.

Institution under the wings of the Society:

Shree Jethmal Tikamchand Chajed Jain Mission Hr. Sec. School.

**SHREE JETHMAL TIKAMCHAND CHAJED JAIN
MISSION HR. SEC.SCHOOL
1, NARAYANA MUDALI STREET
SOWCARPET
CHENNAI – 600 079**

As learning through the mother tongue was preferred five decades back, the school was started as a Hindi medium Primary School in 1950. Making its beginning as Jain Mission Primary School, the school functioned in Vinayaka Mudali Street in the Society's building. In 1981, when the school moved to its present premises, it was named after the chief donor as Shri Jethmal Tikamchand Chajed Jain Primary School. It was then upgraded to a high school in 1985 when Ms. Jeyalakshmi was the headmistress. The primary section alone has boys and girls studying together and the

high school functions as a boys' school. The Hindi primary section is guided by headmistress Mrs. Susheela Bhandari. The High school started receiving government aid from June 1985. In 1995, to cater to the changes in the education pattern, English medium was introduced in the High school, which is now being headed by Mrs.V. Saraswathi Logaraju. In 1999, higher secondary classes were started which are under the tutelage of Shri Naresh Kumar. Presently commerce group is offered in higher secondary classes.

The students are active in Scout, JRC and RSP. They are talented in kho-kho and cricket. Computer education is imparted to students from first standard onwards.

The management with Shri Jasraj Singhvi as secretary and Shri Goutam P. Jain as correspondent encourages the subject toppers in SSLC and HSCC exams by giving prizes. Fee concessions are given to both Jain & non-Jain students according to their economical background. This year nearly 35 students have benefited.

The school library is well stocked with 1200 titles in English & Hindi; in addition, Indian Express, Dinamani, Patrika, Dharmastha, India today, Saritha, Competition Success, Cricket Bharthi are subscribed for the benefit of students & staff. The immediate future plan of the society is to shift the English medium wing of the school to a new building.

RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR JAINOLOGY

The foundation was established in 1982 as a non-profit organization to promote education, culture, art and literature. It aims to foster awareness of Jain philosophy and tenets. It was established by involving both Swetambar and Digambar sects of the Jain community. Recognised as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, it founded a department of Jainology in Madras University in 1983. Then it started a day-cum-residential school by name Jain Vidyaashram in 1996.

Another aspect of the foundation is that, it publishes some rare, ancient literature, Chulamani, for example and various books on Jainism, Jain philosophy, Jain inscriptions etc. The books are published in Tamil, Hindi, Gujarati and English.

Institution under the wings of the Foundation:
Jain Vidyaashram

**JAIN VIDYAASHRAM
150, OTHAWADAI STREET
PUZHAI, CHENNAI – 600 066**

As the youngsters are exposed constantly to non-Indian cultures because of the media, materialism takes the place of human values and culture in their minds. If they are given a good grounding when they are in school, the young minds are conditioned and cannot be shaken off their moorings as they grow. Thus it was decided by the Research Foundation for Jainology to impart a value-based and culture-based quality education. The objectives of this type of education are development of body, enrichment of the mind, sublimation of emotions and character building.

Situated at Puzhal on the Chennai-Calcutta National Highway, the Vidyaashram is ensconced in a sprawling ten-acre property. The school, conducting classes from Pre-kg to tenth is affiliated to the CBSE and education is through English. Each classroom measures 400 sft to accommodate the students comfortably. As the school is

a day-cum-residential one, the approach is a mix of modern education and 'gurukulam' pattern. The hostel facilities are ample with separate wings for boys & girls. Computer education is imparted from first standard onwards. Educational videos are used for effective teaching.

Towards physical development, provisions exist for football, hockey, cricket, tennis, volleyball, basketball and badminton. Indoor games include table tennis, carom and chess. The exposure at school makes them shine in inter-school competitions. Plans are afoot to introduce Yoga and the traditional martial art form, 'silambam.' Various art forms including vocal and instrumental music, folk & classical music are also on offer. The students are also taught to learn and improve non-academic skills through training in gardening, maintenance & repair of electrical gadgets, farming, knitting & embroidery. The school gives due importance to health too by providing a nutritious diet to the hostellers and by having regular medical check-up for everyone. With the efforts of secretary Shri P.C. Chopra and principal Ms. Charumathi the strength has nearly doubled in a single year.

SREE S.S. JAIN MAHILA VIDYA SANGH

The S.S.Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh was started in 1960 with the aim of upliftment of women in general and women's education in particular. With the aim of educating the girl child, SS Jain Kanya Vidyalaya had been established in 1953. Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Mangichand Bhandari and Shri Roopchand Khimsura were instrumental in founding the Vidyalaya. The Mahila Vidya Sangh on inception took over the management of the Vidyalaya.

Though the Sangh was founded for women's causes, there were no women members. Only about fifteen years back, women joined the Mahila Vidya Sangh. Shri Sureshmull Dugar and Shri Ashok Galada persuaded Smt. Lalitha Bhandari –wife of Shri Mahaveerchand, who is grandson of Mangichand Bhandari—and others to be a part of the Sangh. As they had time, Smt. Lalitha Bhandari, her co-sister, Smt. Sushila Bhandari, Smt. Premila Dugar and Smt. Chandrakala Galada, daughter-in-law of Shri Inderchand Galada, started taking active interest in the Sangh. Now the above-mentioned and other ladies who have joined the Sangh not only run the three institutions under the Sangh, but also implement various novel ideas. The adult literacy programme for women is the latest addition, Smt. Madhu Surana being the brain behind it. The Sangh office-bearers regularly visit the institutions to improvise on the existing facilities.

Institutions under the wings of the Sangh:

Mangi Kanwar Anraj Chordia Jain Nursery and Primary School
Ganesh Bai Galada Jain Girls' Higher Secondary School
Chandanmal Abhairaj Nahar Jain Academy for Women

**MANGI KANWAR ANRAJ CHORDIA JAIN NURSERY
AND PRIMARY SCHOOL
26, NAMMALWAR STREET
SOWCARPET
CHENNAI - 79**

The importance of education for the empowerment and emancipation of women was realized by the elders of the Jain community, long before feminism and women's

equality were even talked about. Thus the Sree S.S. Jain Kanya Vidyalaya was established in 1953 with the sole aim of educating the girl child. With the efforts of the elders Shri Mohanmull Chordia, Shri Mangichand Bhandari, Shri Roopchand Khimsura and Shri Madholal Sethia, the school started functioning in the Jain Sthanak at Mint Street, Sowcarpet. Later it was shifted to Veerappan Street in the same locality. In 1973, it was taken over by the Sree. S.S. Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh.

As the modern educational system necessitated, a Nursery section was introduced in 1981. To cater to the growing demands of the locality, the girls' school was converted to a co-education school in 1983. The school is now ably being led by headmistress Ms. Subhashini.

The need for spacious premises was felt when the student strength increased. The magnanimous contribution of Shri Prithviraj Chordia and Shri Sumermul Chordia enabled the purchase of the present premises in Nammalwar Street. And in 1991, in honour of their parents, the school was named as Mangi Kanwar Anraj Chordia Jain Primary School. With liberal contributions from various people, the present building was constructed under the guidance of Shri Jabbarchand Bokadia. The school received its seal of approval from the government of TamilNadu in 1998.

The most extraordinary thing the school has done to celebrate its fiftieth year of existence is to introduce an 'Adult Literacy Program' for women as a permanent project. For this project launched on Guru Poornima Day, in July 2003 the schoolteachers underwent a training program conducted by the Government of India's State Resource Centre for non-formal, adult and continuing education. The books for the program were received from the State Resource Centres of New Delhi and TamilNadu. Nearly seventy parents of the students have registered themselves and are attending classes. English, Maths and Hindi form the curriculum. Due to popular demand, Spoken English classes have also been started recently and Mr. Sthanumoorthy, Secretary of Vidya Bharathi conducts the same.

As part of the golden jubilee celebrations, the school conducted an inter-school competition where 350 students from 30 city schools participated. An inter-school athletic meet was also held which saw 150 students from 17 schools take part in the events. The meet was graced by Shri Seshasai, Deputy Commissioner of Police.

Computer education is offered to the students right from standard one. Training in arts and crafts, dance, vocal music and moral science form part of the co-curricular activities. Karate is also taught to all the children. Be it story telling, Fancy Dress, Drawing or Dharmic competitions or athletics, the students have made the school proud by winning many prizes in competitions held by various schools and other establishments. The teachers vie with students in winning prizes as can be seen from their success in competitions organized by other schools. The teachers too are provided with opportunities to excel in their field by enlisting them in orientation programs. This year they attended a training on value -based education conducted by Sri Baladchand Sayarchand Jain Vidyalaya and a symposium on 'Mind in the Brain' by Shri N.C. Sridharan, correspondent of R.M. Jain Vidyashram, Tiruvallur. The PTA is very active in ensuring a cordial relationship among teachers, students and parents. They sponsor the prizes for the Sports Day every year.

**GANESH BAI GALADA JAIN GIRLS' HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
102, MINT STREET
CHENNAI – 600 079**

Marching towards its fiftieth year, the Ganesh Bai Galada School can pride itself on various aspects, the first being declared open by the former president Dr. Zakir Hussain.

When the S.S. Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh decided to start a girls' school, Smt. Sampath Bai Galada came forward with a liberal donation. The Galada family had been one of the pioneers who started a revolution of sorts in the sphere of education. Shri Inderchand Galada, one of the founding fathers of the SS Jain Educational Society gave his time and resources and helped start the Amoluckchand Galada Jain School, which is named after Shri Inderchand's father. His wife, Smt. Sampath Bai, though widowed quite young and without an educational background, decided to carry on the torch lit by her husband. So she liberally donated to Mahila Vidya Sangh and the school is named in the memory of her mother-in-law Smt. Ganesh Bai Amoluckchand Galada. The initiative that she took has benefited numerous girls.

The school, started in June 1961 with 102 students functioned at Sthanak Bhawan and then at Thulasingham Street till it moved to its present premises in Mint Street. Originally started as a Hindi medium school, the management decided to add English medium also. The government granted permission to start English medium in 1989. So now the school offers Hindi and English as the mediums of instruction for high school. In 1978, the school was upgraded into a higher secondary school with English as the medium of instruction. In higher secondary, Commerce and Accountancy are offered with options of computer science, business maths, economics and statistics besides History group. The school offers two vocational streams namely Childcare and nutrition and Dress designing.

As there are no restrictions on the intake of students – in terms of educational background of parents, there are a few students who do not have the benefit of parental guidance. For such students and slow learners, the school has arranged for special study sessions after school hours. The school has consistently been producing a result of more than 95% with 100% a few years in both tenth and twelfth board exams. In tenth board exams, the school has got four state ranks in Hindi and twice in mathematics. In twelfth board exams, the students have been getting state ranks every year right from 1989 in the subjects of commerce, accountancy, psychology, nutrition and dress designing.

Other than their academic excellence, the school students have participated in children's day celebrations at New Delhi, 50th Independence Day celebrations and in Republic Day celebrations at New Delhi and Chennai. Science club, Maths club, Social club, Guides, JRC, Karuna Club, Interact club and RSP are the club activities that sees the active participation of students. The school trains students in public speaking and debating in Hindi, English and Tamil. The best speaker is given prizes. Children are also taught crafts like fabric painting, embroidery, model making, etc. For the past eleven years, Ms. Nagarathnammal, in all her simplicity and patience has been a guiding force and roll model to the students in all their activities.

The school's performance and popularity have brought in many endowments. For the top scorers in languages in both the board exams, Shri Viridi Chand Marlecha Award, Smt. A. G. Nirmala Swaminathan Award, Shah Hirachand Vagthji Chowhan Dantaraiwala Award are given. The top scorers in subjects in tenth standard are given the Shenoy Award and Smt. Ashaben Chandanmal Mutta Mandar Award. For the rank holders in tenth and twelfth, Sri Umraomal Sripal Surana Award, Smt. Vasanthi Ben Shantilal Sanklecha Mandarwala award and Pukhraj Mittubai Kothari award are given. Smt. Javi Ben Mohanlal Chowhan Dantaraiwala endowment, Sri Sokatchand Kheemchand Balwarwala endowment, Sri Mohanlal Rikhabchand Kankaria endowment, Sri R. H. Kankariya Dantaraiwala endowment, Sri BK Balwarawala endowment, Smt.

Jamna Ben Saremal Mutta Mandarwala endowment and Sri Sayarmal Ballabhbai Anand Chordia endowment have been instituted. Smt. Kamala Mehta and Shri Sajjanraj Mehta Rolling Trophy are given to the best student of the year. For dharmic and moral values Smt. Ramadevi Goenka award is given. The Hindustan Hosiery house has instituted an award for the top scorer in dress designing. And in memory of the donor, her grandson Shri Vimal Galada has instituted the Smt. Sampath Bai Galada Rolling Trophy for cultural excellence among outgoing students in twelfth standard.

**CHANDANMAL ABHAIRAJ NAHAR JAIN ACADEMY FOR WOMEN
25, NAMMALWAR STREET, SOWCARPET
CHENNAI – 600 079**

The academy was formed with the aim of providing higher education to girls. It was found that many girls in Sowcarpet area wanted to pursue their studies after higher secondary education, but could not for various reasons. One of them being commutation problems as there is no college in this locality. So in 1995, the SS Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh started conducting classes from 3.30 pm to 6.30 pm in the Ganesh Bai Galada School premises after school hours. Nearly 150 students started attending the classes.

The good response prompted the Sangh members to construct a permanent building for the academy. Shri Bhawarlal Nahar who had served the SS Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh as president for thirteen years made a liberal donation of Rupees 31 lakhs. The building was constructed under the guidance of Shri Ashok Kumar Mehta. Shri Nahar's grandfather Shri Chandanmal had migrated from Haryadana in Rajasthan and settled in Ooty. The family did jewellery business. As Shri Bhawarlal Nahar wanted to enter a profession rather than business, he came to Chennai with his brother and completed his CA. Along with his practice, he has been actively involved in various social organizations like the Medical Relief Society, Rotary club, SS Jain Educational Society, SPCA etc. When the SS Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh decided to expand the Jain Academy for Women, Shri Nahar contributed generously. So when the academy was shifted to its present, modern five-storied building in 2001, the academy was named as Chandanmal Abhairaj Nahar Jain Academy for Women after Shri Bhawarlal's grandfather and father respectively.

For the freshers, the college life starts with an orientation programme that helps the students to familiarize themselves with the activities and the atmosphere of the academy. The students have the options of Fashion technology, interior decoration, spoken English, tailoring, air ticketing, tourism management, Tanjore painting and nursery training under the vocational streams. Spoken English course is conducted in collaboration with Vivekananda Institute. The Academy also offers job-oriented computer software courses. The computer courses, conducted with the help of SSI Pvt. Ltd., are open to women, other than the academy students. In addition, coaching classes are conducted for the six UG and seven PG courses under regular and Open University systems. The academy conducts various seminars, debates, cultural programmes, competitions and field trips. The academy is ably run by Dr. Shymala Swaminathan who has many papers to her credit.

Proficiency award is given to the topper in each department. For the best student selected by the staff and students, 'Roshni Award' is awarded. Smt. Sarjoo Devi Award is given to the student who scores the highest marks in the exams conducted by the

University of Madras. For the top scorer in Commerce, Smt. Madanbai Galada Award and for the top scorer in psychology, Shri Loonkaran Lodha award are presented.

SRI JAIN SANGH TRUST, TIRUVOTTIYUR

The trust was founded in 1967 with the initiative taken by Shri Nemichand Mootha and other elders of the community in Tiruvottiyur area. He continues to serve the school as its correspondent. The Sangh has been upgrading the school as per the demands of educational trends. The Trust not only supports the economically weak of its school, but also others, by supplying free uniforms and notebooks and bearing the school fees. A unique feature of the Trust is that, it gives free medical care to the students and staff by bearing medical expenses. This is done by an understanding with a nearby a hospital and Dr. Suresh, an alumnus of the school.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:

Sri Mahaveer Jain Higher Secondary School

SRI MAHAVEER JAIN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL 770, TIRUVOTTIYUR HIGH ROAD CHENNAI – 600 019

Named after Bhagwan Mahaveer, the school is functioning on the arterial Tiruvottiyur High Road. The school had its beginning as a primary school in 1966. Started as a Hindi medium school to cater to the Hindi-speaking populace of the area, the school was started with a single teacher and fifteen students. The primary school received government recognition in 1977. The recognition brought in more students and it was upgraded as Sri Mahaveer Jain Middle School in 1978. As there was a demand for English medium education, the school introduced the same, and now Hindi and English mediums are available. Upgraded to include higher secondary classes in the academic year 1999-2000, the school's strength has grown to more than eight hundred. In higher secondary classes, science stream is offered with computer science option and commerce stream with business maths and computer science. For English medium students, Tamil and Hindi are the languages and for Hindi medium students, it is English and Tamil.

The school is being guided by headmaster Shri Ravindran. The primary section is handled by headmistress Smt. Shantha Ram. The school was renovated and more classrooms were added to accommodate the growing strength of students. The new four-storeyed building was opened by the then education minister, Shri K. Anbazhagan on 6th August 1990, in the presence of MLA Shri T.K. Palanisamy. As education and career are becoming computer oriented, computer education was introduced in July 1997. The school follows the state board syllabus. The students participate actively in JRC, Guides and other club activities. Economically weak Jain students are given free education.

RAJASTHANI JAIN SAMAJ EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Rajasthani Jain Samaj was founded in 1967 by like-minded Jains who had settled in Madras. The Samaj undertook various cultural, social and charitable activities.

The members of the Samaj decided to provide education to the poor and the downtrodden and hence started the Shri Rajasthani Jain Samaj Education Trust in 1976. Dr. C L Metha, Suganmull Srisrimal Jain and Shri Kushalchand Galada were

instrumental in starting the educational trust. Shri Ugamraj Mootha, son of Shri Bijairaj after whom the school is named talks of the crucial role the three elders played in establishing the school. He says, right from collecting donations, to getting the infrastructure, from getting the formalities as per Government rules done, to appointing teachers, they took care of all the details.

The Samaj has two other units, namely Shri Rajasthani Jain Mahila Mandal and Youth Wing. Dr. C L Metha who was Secretary of the Samaj for fourteen years and President of the trust till his death in 1995 developed the activities of the Samaj. He took the initiative to construct the Jain Bhavan and a shopping complex in T Nagar. The Samaj also ran a lending library, which had to be closed down in the eighties for various reasons.

The other activities of the Samaj include providing water booths, conducting eye and health camps and providing various facilities to the needy. The Samaj also organizes cultural functions during Holi, Diwali, Paryushan Parva etc.

The future plan of the Educational Trust is to start Sumati Vishal Girls' Higher Secondary School in the same campus, under State Board. In 2004-05 academic year, LKG and UKG are proposed to be introduced with the ultimate aim of having a separate school with state board syllabus since the demand for the same is more.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:

Shri Bijairaj Sajjanraj Mootha Girls' Senior Secondary School

**SHRI BIJAIRAJ SAJJANRAJ MOOTHA GIRLS'
SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
80, BRINDAVAN STREET, WEST MAMBALAM
CHENNAI 600033**

A small boy peers through the gate to see if his parent has come to pick him up. Fearing that he might sneak out, the security watches him hawk-like, answering all the visitors patiently at the same time. Some teachers offer a welcome smile without an inkling of who the visitor is. The Vice-Principal Ms. Radhamani is attending to her paperwork and patiently answering a visitor, a parent and a student – oblivious of the noise outside. For, being a girls' school seems to have given the students an exuberance which one did not notice in the co-educational schools. The spacious campus gives them the opportunity to play tag and hopscotch, unmindful of the scorching sun. As the bell rings, they literally fly up the stairs to their classrooms.

The Jain Bal Mandir was started in 1970 as a sort of a playschool even before the Educational Trust was formed. With a donation from Shri Kewalchand Khatod, the Bal Mandir with kindergarten classes functioned in a rented building in Vaithyarama Iyer Street. The school was named as the Vigyan Vichakshan Jain Bal Mandir, after the Jain sadhvis Vigyansiriji and Vichakshansiriji. It offered education through English and Hindi till 1996 when Hindi medium was dropped. The Rajasthani Jain Samaj felt the need for a girls' school so that those belonging to the Jain community and others could have an English medium education. As the idea took shape, the Mootha brothers Shri Madanraj, Shri Ugamraj and Shri Mahavirchand decided to donate the land that they owned in West Mambalam and an additional monetary contribution.

The brothers' great grandfather Shri Hazarimull of Balunda had trundled along in a bullock cart, with his family in tow and stayed at Hyderabad and Bangalore before finally settling down in Madras in 1858. Shri Hazarimull's son Shri Baneraj expired very young even when his son Bijairaj was a toddler. Bijairaj grew up to be a philanthropist

and established a school and a boarding home in Beawar. He also ran a Hazarimull Baneraj Jain free dispensary for more than two decades. After his worldly departure, his sons found it fit to donate for a cause that was close to his heart. So the Samaj, in recognition of the Mootha brothers' generosity, named the high school in memory of their father Shri Bijairaj and a brother Shri Sajjanraj. Shri Khewalchand Khatod again made a generous donation for the primary section. So on 10th June 1977, Shri Bijairaj Sajjanraj Mootha Girls' High School and Smt. Tumkubai Kewalchand Khatod Jain Primary School were inaugurated. With various donors like Shri Bhawarlal Bothra, Shri Sampatraj Kataria and Shri Amoluckchand Rakecha pitching in, additional land was purchased and new classrooms were added. The school, later upgraded to higher secondary, is affiliated to the CBSE.

The school follows a three -language formula with English as the medium of instruction and Hindi and Tamil as second and third languages. In higher secondary, Commerce and Home science are offered. The school takes pride in its achievements. The standard of education is very high and results have been consistently good. Way back in 1985, the school secured All India Rank in Home Science. After the ranking system was abolished, the students have been getting the certificate of merit awarded by CBSE to the top scorers in the board exams. The school has been receiving the Best School Award of the Jain Social Federation for the past four years. This is in spite of the fact that there are many first generation learners without any educational aid from home.

With the support of the management, especially Shri Harish Metha, extra-curricular and sports activities have received a boost. The school has literary, science, maths, computer, fine arts, crafts, Karuna and many other clubs and a children's corner for the primary school, the activities of which help the students develop their skills and talents. As part of the co-curricular activities, dance, music, yoga, drawing, craft and health education classes are conducted. The students are also actively involved in Girl Guides, RSP and Bulbuls. The competitions held on behalf of these clubs help the students hone their skills. As a result of which the students literally bring loads of prizes in interschool competitions. They also win prizes at State and National levels in UCMAS, U.N. Information test and yogasana contests. A minimum of hundred students bring laurels to the school every year. For two consecutive years the school volleyball team won the National CBSE tournament. As a token of appreciation of their achievement, the management sent them on a trip to Kodaikanal.

The management has also been conducting various seminars on personality development, goal setting, exam strategies, career guidance etc. for the students. Similar workshops are conducted for teachers too. And they are encouraged to participate in seminars and orientation courses conducted by external agencies, the notable one being Microsoft Intel Training. And a staff Ms. Bala Thiripurasundari won the National Intel Award for the most innovative use of computer technology to enhance learning.

Realising the role of multi media in education, the management has established an audiovisual centre with the latest LCD projector and audio system, supplemented by a large number of educational CDs on various subjects. But the most innovative development that the school has introduced, is the filing system. The students do not use notebooks but are given files and worksheets. Similarly the textbooks are divided into three according to the termwise syllabus. All the subjects under each term are bound into two books. This in essence, allows the student to carry a file and two books reducing the weight of books. For the primary section, a specially designed lap top bag has also been introduced which is just big enough to hold the books and a stationery box.

The school has been bringing out a magazine by name 'Pallav' from 1982 for the creative pursuits of the staff and students. The school also awards merit-cum-means scholarships to deserving Jain students. Various Trusts, donors and philanthropists have instituted endowment awards, numbering a total of forty, to encourage the students in their pursuit. With the enthusiastic attitude of the staff and management and that of the students matching up, the school led by Ms. Nirmala is set on a course for higher achievements.

DHANRAJ MISRILAL SURANA EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Trust was founded in 1990 by Shri Ganpath Surana and his younger brother Shri Gouthamchand Surana with the aim of establishing a school. The school was established in 1990 and named after the founder's grandfather Shri Dhanraj and father Shri Misrilal. Shri Misrilal along with his wife Smt. Sushilabai had come from Kalavana in Rajasthan more than fifty years back and established his business in Tambaram. He was well known as a philanthropist first and a financier next in the Tambaram locale. As he evinced a keen interest in the spread of education, the school is functioning as tribute to him.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:

Shri Dhanraj Misrilal Surana Jain Vidyalaya Matriculation School

**SHRI DHANRAJ MISRILAL SURANA JAIN
VIDYALAYA MATRICULATION SCHOOL
7, VALMIKI STREET
EAST TAMBARAM
CHENNAI – 600 059**

Ensconced away from the bustle of the traffic, the old residential buildings where classes are being conducted give the school the atmosphere of a gurukulam. The girls and boys are so engrossed in their lessons that they are unaware of an outsider's presence. Such attentiveness in class is what the school advocates, for the management is of the view that private tuition is unnecessary.

The school, started in 1990 is being run by the Dhanraj Misrilal Surana Educational Trust. Affiliated to the Matriculation Board, the school aims to provide quality education through English. The staff and management take efforts to educate the students not only in their curriculum but also in moral and spiritual values. Having realized the role of parents in the children's education, regular parent – teacher meetings are held to review the progress of the students. The parents are encouraged to give their suggestions in all respects of the school's development. In order to do away with complexes arising out of usage of different quality materials and to maintain uniformity, the school has a book depot through which textbooks and notebooks are supplied.

To bring out the creative talents of the students, literary association meetings are held every month. Various other programs are also conducted regularly. These include painting, elocution, essay writing, recitation, fancy dress, music competitions, talks on national leaders and scientists and cultural programs. The school also lays importance on physical education and for this purpose, the Trust has entered into an agreement with the owners of a plot measuring eight grounds and having additional buildings.

The principal Mrs. Meera Krithivasan with her rich experience as a PG teacher, has been guiding the school for the past seven years. She has streamlined all aspects

of the school including rules and regulations exactly as the government has laid down. She has also introduced computer education. She is credited with conducting competitions and extra-curricular activities and encouraging the students to participate in inter-school competitions. Her commitment and dedication towards the school has prompted her siblings to institute awards. Her brother Dr. Ramaraj of USA has instituted the T.A. Chandrasekaran Memorial Award in their father's name through which the outstanding performance of students in each of the classes from sixth to tenth standards are recognized. The principal's sister Mrs. Rajeswari Gopalakrishnan has instituted another award in their father's memory to encourage teachers. This fund is utilized on Teachers' Day in various ways.

Besides, the East Tambaram Educational and Charitable Trust Meritorial Award and Smt. Devaki Paramasivam Endowment Award are given to the top scorer in the Matric exams. Dr. Krishnamurthy, a neurosurgeon from New York has also instituted an award for the student with the best overall performance.

SRI RAMDEV EDUCATIONAL AND MEDICAL TRUST

The trust was founded in 1994 with the efforts of Dr.C. L. Metha, Shri Dhanraj. C. Shah, Shri Harikishan Singhvi and Shri B.R. Mohata. A wing of the social organisation Ramdev Mandal, the trust was established for rendering service in the educational and medical fields. Other than running a school, the trust manages a temple, a dharamsala and a hospital.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:

Sanghvi Subhadraben Chunnilal Ramdev Matriculation School

**SANGHVI SUBHADRABEN CHUNNILAL
RAMDEV MATRICULATION SCHOOL
18, EDAPALAYAM STREET, PARK TOWN
CHENNAI - 600003**

Growth in terms of quality output and not in terms of numbers has been the principle of this school right from its inception. For, the school believes in individual attention to every student to bring out the best in him and to mould him. So the student-teacher ratio is always maintained at twenty.

Located in one of the busiest commercial districts of Chennai city, this school was established on the 16th of June, 1994. Run by the Sri Ramdev Educational and Medical Trust, an off -shoot of Sri Ramdev Mandal, a well- known social organisation, it was started with the sole aim of imparting quality education with English as the medium of instruction to the socially and economically weaker sections.

Established with the financial support of philanthropist and social worker Sanghvi Dhanraj C. Shah, this school has been functioning from the four-storeyed building in the same premises. The school is named in memory of Shri Shah's parents Shri Chunnilal and Smt. Subhadraben; the school is also named after the saint Bhagwan Ramdev, who is said to be the reincarnation of Rama and hence has followers from all religions.

Started as a primary school it was proposed to bring the school under the CBSE stream. But as it was to cater to students from the weaker sections of the society and those from the commercial districts whose parents might not have the educational resources and time to guide their wards, the school affiliated itself to the Matriculation

Board. The school expanded itself with subsequent government recognition and two sets of class X students have already taken the board exams, with 100% results.

The school presently has a strength of 213 of which about 93% are Jains. But the desire to assimilate into their adapted land is evident from the fact that the students have to learn Tamil in addition to Hindi, which are offered as second & third languages that can be interchanged. The school is being guided by Shri Sailesh Tripathi who has been the principle right from its inception and the educational advisor Shri R.K. Tripathi. Recently the management added an open-air auditorium in the fourth floor. The school library has a very good collection of books with over with 4700 titles.

DADHA & CO GOLDEN JUBILEE TRUST

From Phalodi in Rajasthan came Shri Lalchand Dadha along with his two elder brothers in 1912. In 1914, they established their pharmaceutical business – the well-known Dadha Pharmaceuticals.

Shri Dadha who was always contributing to the cause of education, played an active role in the S.S.Jain Educational Society. He was also associated with Vardhman Jain Sangh of Osian. He founded the Jain Medical Relief Society in 1950.

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the pharmaceutical business, Dadha & Co Golden Jubilee Trust was formed in 1963 with family members as trustees. The Trust started Lalchand Milapchand Dadha Secondary School in 1977.

In 1975, Lalchand Dadha Memorial Trust was formed. As the former is running a school under CBSE and the same Trust cannot run a state board school, the Balubai Dadha Higher Secondary School under state board is being run by the Lalchand Dadha Memorial Trust.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Lalchand Milapchand Dadha Secondary School
Balu Bai Dadha Higher Secondary School

**LALCHAND MILAPCHAND DADHA SECONDARY SCHOOL
19/6, KRISHNAPURAM STREET
CHOO LAIMEDU
CHENNAI – 600 094**

A young mother was on the look out for a school for her daughter. She preferred a school under the religious sect to which she belonged. When a neighbour suggested 'Dadha School', she was hesitant for various reasons. For the sake of convenience she admitted her daughter with the thought she would change schools later. But now she is happy with her 'convenient choice'. For, contrary to her fears that CBSE syllabus would be difficult, the teachers ensure that the students imbibe the lessons. "Also, the school has a secular outlook. Besides, they take steps to develop the child's personality, academic and co-curricular skills", she says. That is the essence of what most parents feel about this school.

To perpetuate the memory of philanthropists Shri Lalchand Dadha and his son Shri Milapchand Dadha, Lalchand Milapchand Dadha Secondary School was founded by Dadha & co Golden Jubilee Trust.

The school had its beginning in 1977 with a student strength of just seven in sixth and seventh standards put together. Higher classes were subsequently introduced. Affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, kindergarten and primary sections were introduced in 1980 and pre-kg in the year 1989. To maintain the standard of education and to enable teachers to give individual attention to students, student strength in each section is restricted to 40.

The nominal fee structure, good discipline and overall development of the student have brought in repute to the school in this locality. Hence people from all walks of life- from professionals to workers – admit their wards here. As some of the latter are first generation learners without academic guidance from home, the school has arranged compulsory remedial classes for slow learners. The free remedial classes conducted for an hour everyday benefits twenty percent of the students. The school is proud of the fact that private tuitions are against their policy and their teachers and parents adhere to that principle.

In 2003, computer aided teaching was introduced with the help of educational CDs and videos. A separate audio-visual room has been set up for this purpose. Students start learning a third language from fifth standard onwards. They learn rangoli, mehendi, cookery, pottery, confectionery and various crafts under Work Experience Class through the concept of 'learning by doing'. In this class, they also create crafts from waste - their skills on display on the walls of the principal's room. They also display their skills through theme-based exhibitions. Students in classes nine and ten have Electrical Gadgets Education. The students are given Certificate of School Based Education on completion of tenth standard. Introduced three years back, the assessment on sports, work experience, attitudes, personality, discipline, hygiene, behaviour, etc. starts when the students are in ninth standard.

Other than their academic activities, the students are members of Interact and Karuna club. While the former gives them courage and confidence the latter teaches compassion and charity. Not only do the students win prizes in the usual painting, essay writing and oratorical competitions, but also in offbeat ones like astronomy quiz. It was a proud moment for the school, when a seventh standard student Charuveena won first prize in 'Talk your way to Japan' elocution contest, by speaking in Japanese. She is back after her tour of Japan as a 'Cultural Ambassador of TamilNadu'.

During Karuna Club International's annual convention, the school received a cash award of Rs. 4000/- as outstanding Award in appreciation of the club's activities and a student received the Dayawan Award. The school celebrated Animal Welfare Fortnight and No Meat Day. As part of World Earth Day and World Water Day celebrations, the students distributed paper bags to the public. Every month the Karuna club members make and distribute paper packets to medical shops in the vicinity. Also they collect unused spectacles and hand them over to the Singhvi Charitable Trust.

As the school stands on a one-acre plot, it has good facilities for team games such as basketball, volleyball, tennikoit and cricket. In addition, students play indoor games such as carom, chess and table tennis. Many students have brought laurels to the school, winning interschool games and tournaments. A class ten student has won a Gold medal in State level CBSE athletic meet and has qualified for the National meet.

The school's standing has brought in a slew of endowments and scholarships. The P.S. Bantia Scholarship is given to the student who scores more than 75% in all subjects in the tenth standard. The school management has also instituted scholarships wherein the students in high school who score more than 75% are waived of their tuition fees. The Champaka Durairajan scholarship is on a merit-cum-means basis. For academic achievements, prizes are given through Venkatraghava Iyer, Elathur

Chandrasekhara Iyer, Kuppani Bai, Sulochana Rangaswamy and Rathnamma Endowments; Parvati endowment prize is awarded to the best performer in cultural events. For KG students, talent recognition is through Baby Charumathi Endowment, which was instituted by Lioness Vidya Ravichandran in memory of her daughter.

**BALU BAI DADHA HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
39, VANNIAR STREET
CHOOOLAIMEDU
CHENNAI-600 094**

Balu Bai Dadha Higher Secondary School was established in 1999 by the Lalchand Dadha Memorial Trust to perpetuate the memory of Smt. Balu Bai, wife of Shri Lalchand Dadha.

Recognised by the Government of TamilNadu, the school comes under the State Board of Higher Secondary Education. With English being the medium of instruction, students have the option to choose from Tamil, Hindi, French and Sanskrit for second language. Science streams are offered with computer science and biology as options. Commerce stream is offered with commerce, Economics, and Accountancy as the main subjects and Maths and Computer Science as optional subjects.

As the school is virtually an extension of Lalchand Milapchand School, all the students participate in various club activities. The students regularly take part in interschool competitions and win prizes, notable among them being Tamil Essay Writing, Dumb Charades, Fusion and Adaptune conducted by various institutions.

The physical well being of the students is taken care of by medical check-up organised by the school. To inculcate a healthy competitive and mental balance, yoga classes are conducted. Apart from moral education, religion is also given its due through Bhajans, Gita classes, Sloka recitations and teachings of Saint Mahavir.

To improve the communication skills of students, spoken English classes are conducted every week in collaboration with Orient Longman. This year the school has started using audiocassettes to enhance the students' aural skills.

Shri Sathyamoorthy Saiprasad Endowment rewards the topper in Science Stream and Shri Aswin Radha Endowment, the topper in Commerce Stream.

To bring out the talents of the students, each month a class is given a topic on which they bring out a wall magazine. Ms. Nirmala who received Best Teacher Award from Lions Club last year, now heads the school as its principal.

R. MISRILAL ANCHIBAI CHARITABLE TRUST

Shri Misrilal had shifted from Bagdinagar in Rajasthan and settled in Chennai nearly seventy years back. His philanthropic son Shri Bhikamchand Lunkad along with his family members formed a charitable trust in 1996. To perpetuate the memory of his parents, the Trust was named as R. Misrilal Anchibai Charitable Trust and was registered in May 1996. The Trust immediately established the R.M. Jain Vidhyashram at Tiruvallur, a Chennai suburb. Besides, the trust organizes medical and eye camps, supplies free artificial limbs and donates to the downtrodden to meet their educational and medical needs.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Sri R.M. Jain Vidhyalaya

Sri R.M. Jain Vidhyashram

Sri R.M. Jain Vidhyapeeth

SRI R.M. JAIN GROUP OF SCHOOLS

Run by the R. Misrilal Anchibai Charitable Trust, the group of schools has Sri R.M. Jain Vidhyalaya, Sri R.M. Jain Vidhyashram and Sri R.M. Jain Vidhyapeeth under its banner.

When Shri Bhikamchand Lunkad had the idea of starting a school, Shri N.C. Sridharan, a management consultant, was also in the process of starting one. So they joined hands to establish the R.M. Jain group of schools. Shri Sridharan has been serving as the schools' honorary correspondent right from inception. The kindergarten section which is known as Sri R.M.Jain Vidhyalaya and the high school which is known as Sri R.M.Jain Vidyashram were started in June 1996. The Vidyashram, affiliated to CBSE was started initially with classes from first standard to sixth and was gradually upgraded up to tenth standard. The CBSE affiliation was granted in May 2000. The R.M. Jain Vidyapeeth was started in 2001 and offers higher secondary courses under state board.

The school was shifted to its present spacious premises from Gurudev Complex in Tiruvallur. The school that started with a strength of two hundred students, has grown to a strength of more than 1200. With the efforts of Ms. N.C. Kalyani, who has been principal right from inception, along with the cooperation of staff and the management, the school has had a commendable development. The students are given computer education right from first standard. In high school, third language is introduced where students have the choice of Sanskrit, Hindi and Tamil. In higher secondary, with Biology and Computer Science as optionals, two groups are available in the Science stream besides the commerce group.

The administration has started a Mathematics lab and English lab. While the former has abacus learning and practical application, the latter helps the children in developing their language skills. In the English lab, each desk has a headphone; various audiocassettes are used to improve the listening, writing and speech skills of students. CDs and books are also used for this purpose. Co-curricular activities include coaching for yoga, vocal music and western music. Students' talents in academic and non-academic spheres are awarded with cash awards, certificates and shields. From last year gold coins are being given to top scorers in board exams.

The students under the guidance of physical director, Shri Kattaiyan, have been bringing home prizes from various sports meets. In the public police sports meet, in the women's category the students have won two places in almost all the track events and also in shot-put, besides being winners in Tennikoit. In zonal and district level tournaments, the school has won singles and doubles titles in Table tennis and badminton besides Relay and volleyball. In individual events, in addition to winning the throw and track events, students have won the high-jump event and weight lifting.

Open days are looked forward to by parents as well as students. It helps the parents to meet the teachers and to be aware of the progress of their children. Apart from the cultural activities, students take part in social awareness programmes.

THE TERAPANTH EDUCATIONAL AND MEDICAL TRUST

Gurudev Shri Acharya Tulsiji and Acharya Mahapragyaji were the inspiration behind the Trust. The trust was registered as a public charitable institution on the 15th October 1988. During one of the meetings of the Trust in the next year, it was decided to start an educational institution. With the blessings and inspiration of Poojya Gurudev Ganadhipathy Tulsi, the school management comprising of Shri Anraj Gadhiya, Shri Pannalal Tatia, Shri Abeerchand Bhandari, Shri Parasmal Nahar, Shri Gouthamchand Sethia, Shree Chaganmal Dhoka and Shri Pyarelal Pittalia was formed. The management team worked in unison and in 1990 the Terapanth Jain Vidyalaya was started in Sowcarpet. Then in 1999, another unit of TJV was opened in Pattalam.

The Trust plans to add one more school, by establishing one in Pallavaram. The groundwork is being done towards this. The Trust also conducts medical and eye camps regularly.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Smt. Gopikanwar Surajkaran Sethiya Terapanth Jain Vidyalaya
Terapanth Jain Vidyalya

**Smt. GOPIKANWAR SURAJKARAN SETHIYA TERAPANTH JAIN VIDYALAYA
7, BARRACKS GATE ROAD
CHENNAI - 600 011**

In Terapanth Jain Vidyalaya, life revolves around the central atrium. With classrooms on all sides, the atrium provides a cool yet bright ambience to this five storeyed building. Care has been taken to provide the children a welcome cheer, as in the case of handrails and kindergarteners' benches painted in bright primary colours. Anyone who walks in is met with a smile by the staff, making the visitor feel at ease with an unspoken assurance that the students are in good hands.

When Smt. Gopikanwar Surajkaran Sethiya decided to fulfill the wish and will of her late husband, her family readily heeded to her wish. For, contribution to the cause of education has been their commitment always - be it here or in their native Balunda where they have constructed buildings for schools. Thus was born Smt. Gopikanwar Surajkaran Sethiya Terapanth Jain Vidyalaya in April 1999, when Smt. Gopikanwar donated nearly four grounds of land in Barracks Gate road, Perambur. Till June 2000 when the building was completed, the school functioned from Smt. Gopikanwar's residence in Pulianthope High Road in the same locality.

The administrative officer Shri Tulasidas Vyas is proud to have seen the growth of the school from 98 students to 600 students in a matter of four years. For, in the early stages of the school's growth, he had doubled up as a teacher and took classes till fifth standard. Started with classes from LKG to sixth standard, higher classes were subsequently added and the first set of class X students – 5 girls and 12 boys – will be appearing for their Matriculation exams in March 2004.

Presently the school is guided by the principal Smt. Raj Rao, after the tenures of Smt. Nandini and Smt. Asrani. With various donors pitching in, the school prides itself of very good infrastructure and facilities. Catering to students from middle and lower middle class backgrounds, the fees are very nominal. A well stocked library, a computer lab, which students start using from their first standard are some of the highlights. A donor has recently endowed the school with a lift. Though a ground has been taken on

lease, the terrace is a delight for the children during physical education classes. Their co-curricular activities include dance, karate and skating. And they are taught meditation and breathing techniques too. Some donors have instituted 'Best Sportsman Award', scholarships, 'Best Student Award' for academic excellence and 'General Proficiency Award' for overall performance. Plans to upgrade the school to a higher secondary one are on the anvil.

**TERAPANTH JAIN VIDYALAYA
MATRICULATION HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
32, VADAMALAI STREET
CHENNAI – 600 079**

The seeds for this school were sown in 1989 when the Terapanth Educational and Medical Trust decided to start an educational institution with the blessings and inspiration of Poojya Gurudev Ganadhipathy Tulsi. Shri Sripal, Smt. Kamali Sripal, Smt. Sundari, former Administrative Officer of Padma Seshadri Higher Secondary School and Shri Jaswantmal Sethia played a crucial role in starting the school. With the school office functioning from Tirupalli, the primary classes were started on the 18th of June in 1990 and were conducted at Terapanth Sabha Bhawan in Managappan Street. With 320 students, 10 teachers and 6 non-teaching staff, the school had a considerably good start. Upgraded to higher secondary in 1994, the school presently has a strength of nearly two thousand.

The foundation stone for the new building in Vadamalai Street was laid in 1990 and in 1991 classes commenced there. The present school building spread in an area of four grounds is well-planned - the credit for which goes to Shri Prakash Mutha, Shri Meghraj Lunawat and Shri Bhawarlal Marlecha. With a central covered atrium and classrooms on all sides, this five storeyed building is well - ventilated.

Shri Chaganmal Dhoka who has been the correspondent since inception is credited with the growth of the school. A perfectionist to the core, he has instilled discipline among all the students and the staff that cannot be matched. He set the goal for the teachers to develop each student into a confident person who will be able to express himself or herself and hold her own. Recognition of his work has come in the form of 'Best Correspondent Award' instituted by Prem Sundar Fine Arts. The first headmistress Ms. Gemma Paul and subsequently Ms. Rose Viswasam guided the school in its initial stages and laid a firm foundation on which Ms. R. Saraswati built up the school and gave the school its shining image. In 1997, her discerning work brought her the 'Best Principal Award' of the Lions Club of Chennai. Twice during her tenure, the school was adjudged as the 'Best School' in the locality. Ms. Saraswati's untimely expiry saw Ms. Lalitha Venkat taking over the reins. The present principal Ms. G. S. Padmini who took over in 2000 has further steered the school forward. Under her stewardship TJV won the 'Best School Award' of Jain Federation in 2002.

Teachers here strive hard and have been bringing 100% results in Board exams except on two occasions. In 2002, one of their twelfth standard students scored the highest among North Madras schools. The school has tried a non-academic approach to improve the performance of slow learners and found it a success. As yoga and meditation have the potential to calm restlessness in children and channelise their energy and mind towards studies, every morning a special yoga session is held for slow learners. Held for students between third and ninth standards, about 15% of the students are benefited by this special session. Besides, Jeevan Vigyan – the science of

Living – advocated by Poojya Gurudev Acharya Shri Mahapragyaji has also been included as part of curriculum. This involves yoga, meditation, retrospection and self-analysis.

Affiliated to the Matriculation Board, the medium of instruction is English, except in Kindergarten, where it is Hindi. Students have the option to choose between Hindi and Tamil as second language. Even though only 5% of the students take it, Sanskrit is introduced as a language option from sixth standard onwards.

The school is using modern technological development for educating the students. Educational CDs are shown twice a week to primary students and once a week to the others. This has enhanced the interest of the students in their subjects. Computer education is imparted from third standard onwards. With 33 systems, every student gets sufficient time to use the computer. The library too is well – equipped with more than 4000 titles. In memory of Shri Khivraj Choradia, Smt. Bhavani Devi Choradia Charitable Trust has donated a considerable amount of money towards equipping the library better. To bring out the creative talents of the students, the school brings out a magazine, appropriately named 'The Voice'. The school has also been conducting TJV Invitation Interschool Cricket Tournament for eight years now.

Shri Chaganmal Dhoka has taken initiatives to conduct seminars on personality development, public speaking, spoken English and time management. He has also arranged an external counsellor to assess slow learners. The counsellor spends time with each student on a one-to-one basis. After the suggestions are carried out the improvements of the students are constantly monitored and reviewed.

To encourage the students in their academic and co-curricular interests, Shri Prakashchand Mutha Best student Award and Smt. Premibai Pitaliya General Proficiency Award are given. Apna Club and Lions Club of Meenambakkam have been felicitating top scorers of each subject in tenth, eleventh and twelfth standards since 1999. Students and staff with 100% attendance are rewarded by the management. Shri Sunil Bokadia has instituted the Best Sportsman Award. The Anita Nahar, B.M. Dugar Charitable Trust, Oriental Research Trust and Shri Kamalabai Golecha Endowments are providing scholarships for the needy and the meritorious.

SHRI ANAND RISHI JAIN SOCIETY

The first Jain to inhabit Tambaram area was Shri Devichand Vinayakia, grandfather of the present secretary, Shri Uttamchand Vinayakia. He had migrated from Pattari Karmawas near Pipalia. Soon others followed and presently there are 125 Jain families in Tambaram.

Members of the Jain community put their philanthropic minds together and established Shri Anand Rishi Jain Society in 1977 for the cause of education and healthcare. The society founded Shri Anand Jain Vidyalaya in 1977. The members of the society, under the banner of SS Jain Society undertake various charitable activities like running water booths, distribution of clothes, food and medicines during natural calamities. Most often, the local governing bodies like the panchayat approach the Society in times of need and during disasters. And the Society rises immediately to the occasion. Recently when the TB Sanatorium staff went on strike, the Society supplied food for two days.

The Anand Rishi Jain Society has purchased the land adjacent to the school and is adding more buildings to the existing one. The new building will have a play area for kindergarten in the ground floor, classrooms in the first floor and a meditation hall in the

second floor. It plans to get a bigger playground for the school, proposes to start a college and might also start a diagnostic centre.

Institution under the wings of the Society:

Shri Anand Jain Vidyalaya Matriculation Hr. Sec. School

**SHRI ANAND JAIN VIDYALAYA MATRICULATION
HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
77, KAKKAN STREET, WEST TAMBARAM
CHENNAI – 600 045**

The School has been bringing about a silent revolution in education. A non-Tambaram resident might not have known about Anand Jain Vidyalaya but for its achievements appearing regularly in the regional news of national newspapers.

Deeds indeed speak better than words – more so for Anand Jain Vidyalaya. One read about the ‘Talk your way to London’ prize and Variety entertainment prize in the Emma Foulger Students’ book fair garnered by the students. Then came the news of the Vidyalaya students winning a Tamil Web Designing Contest conducted by Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre. The principal Smt.K. Mekala’s name figured in the list of recipients of Dr. Radhakrishnan State Award for ‘Best Teacher’. The latest was the news of correspondent Shri Uttamchand Vinayakia receiving the second prize at state level for excellence in IT literacy from the Chief minister of Tamil Nadu, Ms.J. Jayalalithaa in the presence of Deputy PM Shri L.K. Advani at the e-governance conference held in October 2003.

Started on the 15th July 1977 as a primary school with twenty students with divine blessings of Acharya Samrat Shri Anand Rishi, after whom the school is named and the blessings of Jain sadhvis Shri Kushal Kuvarji, Shri Promod Kuvarji and Shri Pushpa Kuvarji, the school has had an enormous growth.

For seven years the school functioned in the Shri S.S. Jain Prayer Hall. With funds generated from members of the Jain society, the school moved to its present premises in 1984. With government approval coming its way in 1985, the management upgraded it to a high school in 1985 and to a higher secondary in 1988. In higher secondary, two groups each are offered in Science and Commerce streams. Till fifth standard, Montessori system of education is followed where learning is activity-oriented. Teachers prepare worksheets where the students fill in what they learn. They are given homework only over weekends. This child-centred learning has enabled the students to imbibe their lessons faster. For, the students are taught functional grammar at the first standard itself. This has stood the students in good stead in their higher education and career, as observed from the feedback of the alumni.

The school conducts numerous co-curricular activities. The literary activities in Tamil, Hindi and English include elocution, group discussion, recitation, handwriting, debate and Sanskrit chanting. Under Performing Arts Club, music, dance and drama are conducted and the Fine Arts Club has painting, craftwork, mehendi, clay modeling and carving. In addition, various science programmes, quiz, project works, exhibitions and talent shows are conducted. Computer education is imparted in collaboration with NIIT under the [NIIT@school](#) programme. The excellent computer education brought in the second place among six hundred schools in Excellence in IT Literacy Awards; a team of top officials from various departments selected the school after spending hours scrutinising not just the computer laboratory but the entire spectrum of facilities.

The activities in school have helped the students sharpen the skills to such an extent that they never return without a prize in whatever event they participate. If one can go by the number of prizes, there seems to be no match for Anand Jain Vidyalaya students in Science. Two of the science models won Best Model prize for Energy Development and Food Adulteration at Zonal Science Exhibition held in Chengalpet. The exhibit 'static model' won a prize at the Jawaharlal Nehru Science Exhibition in Madurai. A student won prizes in State level science talent exam and AIIMS talent test. Another student won the Best Entry award at national level letter writing contest of the postal department and won the semifinal round in the well-known 'Talk your way to London' contest. Her academic and co-curricular achievements have earned her a merit scholarship from the management. Apart from this, the students have won many quiz, oratorical and beauty contests including the Best School Award in NIIT's quiz competition. The students of the Vidyalaya bag countless prizes in the Students Book Fair Competitions and Bakthamara sloka competitions every year.

The correspondent Shri Vinayakia and the principal credit team effort of the faculty for the successful performance of the school. The principal Ms. Mekala who joined the school in 1985 and has been its principal from 1986 is proud of the fact that most of the teachers have been serving the school for a long time. No staff member quits except under unavoidable circumstances. This has given continuity and has helped the administration in implementing new ideas. The principal credits her vice principal Ms. Usha Rajaraman for introducing the Montessori system and various other co-curricular activities. The Society under the leadership of Shri Balchand Gandhi has been extending its fullest cooperation to the initiatives taken by the school authorities.

The achievements of the school have brought in Best School Awards from Jain Social Federation, Lions Club and the Chief Educational Officer of Kanchipuram district. Two of the staff members, Ms. Mangayarkarasi and Ms. S. Radha were conferred with Best Teacher Award by Lions Club.

With the nurturing given to the students by dedicated staff, the students have distinguished themselves in their chosen careers. The careers of the alumni, in fact, encompass a wide spectrum. There are dentists and doctors of allopathy, homeopathy and ayurveda. There are models, marine engineers and theatre personalities. From merchant navy to banking, from research in chemical engineering to genetic engineering, the alumni occupy top positions in Indian and foreign institutions – making the school authorities proud. The students of the Vidyalaya have won many sports prizes too, the notable one being the first prize in state level shuttle badminton tournament.

Irrespective of the class they are in, the management supports the economically weak children. Presently, seventeen students are benefited by the institutional scholarships.

The place that the school has earned for itself has brought in endowment awards from people who have had some connection with the school. The Amritha Puraskar, S.D. Kumar Award, Kodhai Memorial Award, Aditya Award and Prabhu Memorial Award have been instituted by donors for toppers in the Matriculation board exams. For the rank holders in higher secondary exams Tulsi Puraskar, Govindarajan Memorial Award, Muralidharan Memorial Award, Raja Memorial Award and Bhadha Award are given. Shri K.V.R. Chary has instituted a general proficiency award for eighth standard.

With the performance and achievements becoming better year-by-year, the school seems set to reach the stars.

The Trust was started by Shri Chainmal Surana in 1987 for service in the fields of education and healthcare. He had migrated to Madras as a boy of fifteen. A self-made man, he laboured hard till he could establish himself. Using a gift that he received as an investment, he started his business. He pioneered the piece goods business in the textile industry. The trust was lending a helping hand to the needy. Then the Boarding Home in his hometown inspired him to start a school in his adopted homeland. So he established a school in Royapuram in 1996.

He is associated with most of the Jain organisations in the city. The Madras Piece Goods Merchants Association is running a hospital, the needs of which are met by the Trust. The Trust also conducts eye camps and medical camps regularly in Chennai and Kuchera, his hometown. Three years back, on Shri Chainmal's 75th Birthday, Amrit Mahotsav Trust was started which is also undertaking social service activities.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:

Shri BC Surana Jain Matriculation Hr. Sec. School

**SHRI BADANKANWAR CHAINMAL SURANA JAIN MATRICULATION
HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
14 – RAMANUJA IYER STREET
OLD WASHERMENPET
CHENNAI - 21**

A kindergarten kid sights the affable elderly person in the corridor, runs and clings to him. One might take him for the grandfather of the child. Then another child slowly sidles up to him. Then another comes running and jumps into his arms. Soon he is swarmed by the kids. And he turns out to be the vice-principal of the school. Shri Keith D' Cruz has taken up this post, on the insistence of the grandsons of Shri Chainmal Surana, who were his students. Though he is informal and friendly with all the students, he spends as much of his spare time as possible with the younger lot for two reasons. For one, it is to induce a natural desire to come to school. The other is to help them start speaking in English right from their first year in school. And his friendliness seems to have rubbed on to the students as well. For, a group of fifth standard kids gather around the visitor, asking all sorts of questions. When told the purpose of the visit, they all went praises for their staff and school, with a final, "Promise us to write a long story of our school and all the nice things we told you about our school". All in perfect English. The efforts of the authorities are sure making a difference.

Established by The Chainmal Surana Charitable Trust, the school is named after its founders Smt. Badankanwar Surana & Shri Chainmal Surana. As trustees, their sons, Shri Loonkaran Surana, Shri Gautamchand Surana and Shri Hastimal Surana and other family members take active interest in the school and act as correspondent for three years each.

Started as a primary school in June 1996, the school received Government recognition in 1997 to run classes upto seventh standard. With subsequent upgradation each year, the first set of tenth standard students appeared for their Matriculation exams in 2000. Following a three-language system with English as medium of instruction, the school offers Tamil and Hindi as options for second and third languages. The students also learn yoga, karate, aerobics and bharathanatyam as co-curricular activities. Four groups are offered in higher secondary with computer Science and biology as options in Science stream and Business Maths and Computer Science as

options in Commerce group. Vocational groups in Home Science and Dress Designing are also offered.

Functioning in the same premises from the time of inception, the school has a four-storeyed building with a basement, the latter being used for assembly, indoor games and school functions. As the strength of the school increased and higher classes were introduced, a new block was constructed. The playground lies in between the two blocks. The students are trained in kho-kho, kabadi and hockey, the last one being initiated by the present correspondent Ms. Vaishali Surana.

The walls of the kindergarten sections in the ground floor are adorned with colourful paintings and posters. Play equipment and educational toys abound in the room. Each floor houses a room for the staff. The library is spacious with good reading facilities where many students can be accommodated simultaneously. In addition to titles in all three languages, newspapers and magazines like the Hindu, Dinamalar, Wisdom, Frozen Thoughts and Sportstar are subscribed to.

The school, with the guidance of the management and efforts of the staff has had a leap in academic performance. In two years, the pass percentage in tenth standard has grown from 66% to 94%. As the performance improves, the management and individuals evince keen interest in contributing their mite to the school. When Hemashri, a class eight student had to leave the school for personal reasons, the attachment she had for the school made her parents institute a shield. This rolling shield is given to the class that consistently maintains punctuality, discipline, neatness, grades, etc. throughout the month. The management has also instituted Sri Chainmal Surana Award for general proficiency and Smt. Badan Kanwar Award for the best sports person. For 100% attendance also the staff and students are rewarded by the management. To encourage students towards better performance, the management has introduced a scheme where tenth standard students who score above 90% in all subjects in all the exams throughout the year are given a 100% waiver on term fees the next year. Those with a consistent score of more than 80% are given 50% exemption in term fees and those with more than 70% score are given 25% exemption in term fees.

Advisor Shri B.G. Acharya and the correspondent Ms. Vaishali Surana ensure the smooth functioning of the school by being present in the premises. For this purpose, the Trust has provided a spacious Management Room where Shri Acharya and Ms. Surana are available throughout the day, five days a week. Future plans include enhancing the facilities in kindergarten. From this academic year, convocation for the UKG students has been introduced.

TEJRAJ SURANA TRUST

Shri Jawanthraj had migrated from Kalavuna in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan. As one of the early migrants, he was associated with the SS Jain Educational Society and Jain Medical Relief Society and the activities of both. He also helped found a charitable trust and the Sowcarpet Jain Bhawan among many religious and charitable activities. His son Shri Tejraj Surana who followed his father's footsteps, became a well-known social worker and philanthropist of Sowcarpet area. He always had the welfare and upliftment of society in his mind. To focus his activities, he founded the Tejraj Surana Trust in 1972. The Trust fed the poor, offered financial help for education and conducted eye camps. Shri Tejraj Surana's dreams were fulfilled when his son Shri Pannalal founded a CBSE school by name Shri Jawanthraj Tejraj Surana Jain Vidyalaya in 1983. In 2002, the Trust established a matriculation school in the name of Smt. Pusibai, wife of Shri Tejraj Surana. The Trust started an Information Technology Centre in 1999, the courses being open to all.

Two years back, the Vidyalaya conducted National Volley Ball Championship on behalf of CBSE schools, where more than 800 students from various schools including three Gulf countries participated. The enthusiastic participation inspired the secretary Shri Gouthamchand Surana to open Surana Sports Academy. At present, the academy coaches only its students in cricket, volleyball & kho-kho. From the next academic year, it plans to throw open its doors to others as well.

Another future plan of the Trust is to start a nursing school in 2004. Awaiting sanctions from the DME, once the school starts functioning, paramedical and related courses will be offered.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Shri Jawantraj Tejraj Surana Jain Vidyalaya & Junior College
Smt. Pusibai Tejraj Surana Matriculation Hr. Sec. School

**SHRI JAWANTHRAJ TEJRAJ SURANA JAIN
VIDYALAYA & JUNIOR COLLEGE
2, BADRI GARDEN LANE
CHENNAI - 600079**

It is an eclectic mixture of people. One hears Hindi, Telugu and North- western dialects. For, it is the 'Open Day' at school. While the students run about with glee on having their parents around and meeting the parents of their friends, the teachers are busy and patient in interacting with the parents. The parents emerge with varied expressions on hearing their wards' performance. Some of them meet the Principal. The Principal Ms. Uma Chandrasekhar switches between Tamil, Telugu, English and Hindi with effortless ease, the smile always in place. And there is absolute smoothness at the way everything is handled irrespective of the crowd of parents. This stands as proof for the planning abilities of the administrative and teaching staff, which goes into all aspects of the school's activities.

The desire of Shri Tejraj Surana, founder of the Trust, to enlighten the younger generation with education was fulfilled when his son Shri Pannalal Surana founded the Shri Jawantraj Tejraj Surana Jain Vidyalaya in 1983. Dr. S. Balakrishna Joshi played an important role in inception and shaping up of the school. The first secretary Shri Kailashmull Dugar and first principal Ms. Nandini Nandakumar also played an effective role in the school's initial stages. The school started functioning in Managappan Street and was shifted to its present premises in 2002. And now the school has multifaceted personalities like Shri Bhawarlal Gothi, Shri Kailashmull Dugar and Shri Gouthamchand Surana to guide its activities and Shri T R Devarajan, a certified associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers – who has been among the board of directors of various banks – as Educational Advisor.

Started as an English medium primary school in 1983 under CBSE stream, the Vidyalaya has grown to a high school in 1989, which was further upgraded to higher secondary in 1994. The present strength is a little more than a thousand. Even though 90% of the students are Jains, the school offers Hindi and Tamil as second and third languages. In higher secondary, the school offers three options in the Science stream with various combinations of Biology, Maths and Informatics practices – other than Physics & Chemistry. Commerce stream has two groups with Maths and Informatics practices as the options.

To equip the students to the changing trends in education, a modern computer laboratory with sixty latest technology computer systems has been accommodated. With a simple and pleasing decor, the computer lab is provided with gallery seating. The

students are initiated into computers at LKG itself. The school has also started the 'Class on Video' project where educational CDs are used to impart knowledge. For this purpose, every classroom has been equipped with a computer. The school also has a tie up with Anna University and has the Anna University Information Technology Education Centre through which computer courses are offered to students as well as parents. Through this tie-up, Anna University conducts examinations and issues certificates that serve as an added qualification.

The management ensures that the school has dedicated and creative staff so that the students are moulded well. The Principal Ms. Uma Chandrasekhar with thirty years of experience of teaching behind her has co-authored Mathematics text books for classes Six, Seven and Eight of CBSE stream. The school also has a qualified librarian in Shri K K Varma. With his rich experience of having served as librarian in the war ships of Indian Navy, Warfare College in Secunderabad and Defence Security Staff College in Wellington, he has systematized the library. With the support of the management, he has added books worth Rs.25,000/- recently and the library now has a collection of more than 10,000 titles which are neatly arranged subject-wise in the spacious library at the basement. The school subscribes to the international science and maths journal Intelligence and Resonance, the science and maths journal brought out by the Indian Academy of Sciences, other than the regular magazines like Business World, Span, Sportstar etc. The school also subscribes to the children's favourite magazines like Chandamama, Gokulam, Chatterbox and Wisdom in addition to the Hindi magazines Yuga, Anubuth and Balavatika. The children have the choice of a good twenty magazines.

The management and staff encourage students in sports and non-academic activities too. The vast playground in Pulianthope helps the students in getting coached for karate, volleyball and cricket. Table Tennis and carom are the students' favourite indoor games. The school hosted the CBSE National Volley Ball Tournament in 2003. It also hosted the athletic meet for two consecutive years and the V Cluster Volley Ball Tournament for three consecutive years.

Karuna club is very active in the school and its members have been receiving many awards at the Annual Karuna Club conventions. That the staff members here do not confine themselves to their defined area of work is obvious from the fact that, the librarian Shri Varma has initiated the Scouts movement, which is called the Surana Suraksha Kendra here. He is also trying to get NCC started, other than coaching students for swimming competitions.

The school also conducts an annual cultural fete named "Vidyadeep". Also inter school competitions are held every year. The students are also encouraged to participate in inter school competitions organized by other schools. The cups, shields and trophies that adorn the walls of the principal's cabin stand proof to the children's abilities. The management encourages the teachers too by conducting various workshops and also by getting them to participate in seminars and training programs arranged by other schools. The school brings out a souvenir-cum-magazine once in five years. Also, to enable parents to be in the know of the school's progress, the school has a website which is updated on alternate days.

**SMT. PUSIBAI TEJRAJ SURANA
MATRICULATION HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
2, MANAGAPPAN STREET
CHENNAI - 600079**

The Tejraj Surana Trust, on completion of twenty years decided on an expansion process. With the experience gained from running the Shri Jawanthraj Tejraj Surana School, it was decided to start a school under matriculation stream. This resulted in the formation of Smt. Pusibai Tejraj Surana Jain Matriculation Higher Secondary School in June 2002.

The reputation that the CBSE school enjoyed brought in students for the new matriculation school, and the school had a considerably good initial strength of hundred and twenty students. In its second year of inception, the school's strength has nearly doubled this year. And the management has provided necessary infrastructure and facilities that it is very difficult to say that it is only two years since the school was started.

The school has a very good computer laboratory with twentyfive computers. In higher secondary, the science stream has two options of Biology and Computer Science. In commerce stream, with computer science, Business Maths and Economics the students have three options to choose from. In addition, a vocational Commerce stream with Accountancy, Typewriting and Management Principles is offered. The school follows three language system with Hindi and Tamil as the second and third languages. The library has also been well stocked with five hundred titles in addition to dailies and magazines.

Due importance is given to sports and co-curricular activities, wherein swimming, karate and horse riding are the optional sports activities. To enhance the students' talents, various clubs are active in the school. These include Crafts, Sports, Karuna, Music, Science and Maths among others. Under each club, various competitions are held. For example, the competitions under Arts & Crafts include cartoon drawing, pot painting, collage, face painting, vegetable carving, origami and other such. The science clubs activities include quiz, crossword puzzles, demonstration of working models, seminars etc. All the clubs activities are planned initially and printed in the calendar to enable even the parents to be aware of the activities. Also, the activities are spread out evenly so that each month a club's activity is held. Under the able leadership of Principal Mrs. Meenakshi Ramamurthy, with the support of the management, the school is already making a name for itself.

VIDYA JYOTHI TRUST

Sri Jadavbai Nathmal Singhvi group of schools was established by Shri Sugarchand Jain. The schools were originally started under the Sri Jadavbai Nathmal Singhvi Trust. As the Trust had various other service activities related to the fields of education and medicine, Vidya Jyothi Trust was started exclusively to run the schools.

The trust started a computer centre named Tejas Informatics in December 2003 to offer computer education. Students of the trust schools get a concession to register for the courses. Staff are waived 50% of the fees. This is done with the view that, it will not only help the teachers to develop their knowledge but would also benefit the students indirectly. The trust also offers free education to children of the staff members.

In all the three schools managed by the trust, the management sans teachers, meets the parents to hear their opinions and suggestions. This is done so that the parents have no inhibitions in voicing their views. An arrangement that is welcome by the teachers too. Because there are hardly any criticisms but only accolades.

The staff of the schools who produce 100% result and those who bring about a good change in the educational standard of students are given cash awards by the management. The Trust is starting another unit of toddlers' wing in Ponnappa Lane of Triplicane.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Sri JNS Jain Vidhyalaya Primary School

Sri JNS Jain Vidhyalaya Matriculation Hr. Sec. School

Sri JNS Jain Vidhyalaya Primary & Toddlers' Wing

**SRI JADAVBAI NATHMAL SINGHVEE JAIN VIDHYALAYA
PRIMARY SCHOOL
9, KUPPU MUTHU MUDALI STREET
TRIPLICANE, CHENNAI – 600 005**

The School had an auspicious beginning on Vijayadasami Day in 1984 as an English medium Primary School under the Matriculation Board. With a contemporary approach towards education, three-language formula is followed with Tamil and Hindi as second and third languages. The students are familiarized with computers from first standard onwards. The administration ensures that the strength in each section, especially in the kindergarten, does not exceed 25; this enables the staff to attend to each student.

The walls are adorned with charts prepared by the students and study material. Various play equipments and educational toys are used for the pre-KG students. Each year the management adds to the existing stock. Educational CDs are played every fortnight. The students are also taken on field trips. To lessen the burden of the books, every class has only three core subjects per day in addition to moral science or GK.

Students from class III onwards can take up training in karate, cookery and tailoring. Every week competitions are held which help the students develop a competitive spirit and also their skills. This helps them do well in inter-school and their annual competitions. Headmistress Ms. K. Prema Kumari proudly states that out of 420 students, nearly 350 won prizes this year. Competitions differ for the primary and kindergarten. For KG, the competitions include recitation of Tirukkural, Athichoodi, Bharathiar songs, rhymes, handwriting, fancy dress and drawing.

For the Independence and Republic Day celebrations, a student's parents are invited as the chief guests. They are chosen by lots. As the UKG children graduate on to first standard, a grand convocation day is celebrated for them.

**SRI JADAVBAI NATHMAL SINGHVEE JAIN VIDHYALAYA
MATRIC HR. SEC. SCHOOL
16,17 GANAPATHY STREET
TRIPLICANE
CHENNAI - 600 005**

As the school made a steady progress it was upgraded into a High school in 1987 and got government approval in the same year. The high school was shifted to its present spacious premises in Ganapathy Street. Classrooms are in the ground and first floors and are very spacious. The basement has a library, arts & crafts room and an

Audio-visual room. The second floor houses the auditorium and laboratories. Higher secondary classes were started in 1996. In Higher Secondary classes, Science streams are available with Biology & Computer Science as options and in Commerce stream, Computer science, Economics & Business maths are the options offered. The first principal Ms. Sandhya Rangarajan is credited with the growth of the school. As the strength grew, the kindergarten was shifted to a building in Big Street. Last year the primary section was also shifted there.

The school lays stress on overall developments of the students. Music, Bharathanatyam, karate and Yoga classes are held regularly. The role of parents in the child's development is also given importance and hence an Open Day & regular PTA meetings are held. The students join Guides, JRC, RSP, NSS, Scouts. The RSP students help regulate traffic near the school. NSS volunteers visit orphanages & rural hospitals. Seminars relevant to students are also conducted.

Yearly exhibition helps the students showcase their creative talents. The school conducts various competitions, which not only brings out the talents of the students but also helps teachers in identifying their talents for inter-school competitions. The staff plans all the competitions meticulously in the beginning of the year so that they are spread evenly through the year and the details are given in the school calendar. This helps the students to prepare adequately and in advance. Other than the usual competitions, recitation, oratorical essay, quiz, fancy dress, rangoli, cookery, handwriting, needlework and drawings competitions are also held. Among indoor games chess & carom competitions evoke very good response. The school also conducts inter-school oratorical competitions in English, Tamil & Hindi and drawing competitions.

The students made a name for themselves and their school in the state level Great Arc Treasure Hunt organised by the Geological Survey of India, in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Trigonometric Survey. A twelfth standard student's Hindi poem was published in 'Kacchi Mitti', an anthology of poems.

The management encourages staff to participate in workshops and seminars. It also encourages them with cash awards when they produce 100% results in their subjects and also when they make an average student score more.

After Ms. Chamundeeswari took over as principal two years back, she has been steering the school towards achieving 100% results. Last year, the school received a certificate from the education minister for the results in board exams. It's little wonder that she received the Best Teacher Award from both the State and Central governments in 2003.

**SRI JADAVBAI NATHMAL SINGHVI JAIN VIDYALAYA
PRIMARY AND TODDLERS' WING
115, BIG STREET
TRIPLICANE
CHENNAI - 600 005**

The Toddlers' wing was established in 1999. In four short years it has grown in stature, strength and repute. So much so, that there is an eagerness among the local populace to admit their wards here. As the management prefers to maintain a comfortable student - teacher ratio for individual attention, every year the school administration has to turn away parents during Vijayadasami and the beginning of an academic year.

The name it has earned for itself is due to various reasons. As the students need a good grounding during their formative years, the staff concentrate on educating the child well and hence on academics. They give extra coaching free of cost, to slow learners and to first generation learners, after school hours. They do have co-curricular activities and various competitions are held. They are distributed evenly through the year, so that a competition is held every month. These include Athichoodi, Thirukkural, Sloka, recital of rhymes and Bharathiar songs, handwriting, fancy dress and drawing competitions. Right from LKG, students start having computer education.

Though the school is located on a narrow plot of land, it has been ingeniously designed to let in light and air. The pre-KG occupies the entire basement and various play equipments are accommodated here. Walls of each class room is painted with stories, alphabets, words, etc. that are to be learned by the children.

The staff, especially the headmistress Ms. Komalavalli Santhanakrishnan and KG incharge Ms. Sridevi Saranathan are always available and approachable by parents and this vibes well with the parents.

SHREE MAHAVEER JAIN KALYAN SANGH

The Jains residing in Choolai area had pooled in their efforts and resources together to start a school in 1966. The Shree Mahaveer Jain Kalyan Sangh was formed to run and upgrade the school Shree Jain Bala Vidyalaya in an organized manner. The memorandum was drawn in such a way that numerous charitable objectives could be included, apart from education. So, the Sangh was established in 1967 with 41 executive members who were social workers representing various localities of Chennai. The Sangh was registered under Societies Registration Act on the 11th of July, 1967. Shri Jatanlal Daga and Shri Pannalal Vaid held office as the Founder President and Secretary respectively. Shri Bhagchand Galada, Shri Seshmal Pandia, Shri Nawratanmal Golecha and Shri Tarachand Golecha were the other office bearers.

On formation, the Sangh took over the Shree Jain Bala Vidhyalaya and a separate committee was formed for the administration of the school. In commemoration of Bhagwan Mahaveer's 25th Nirvana Centenary celebration the Sangh had conducted a seminar on 'Jain contribution to Tamil literature and art' and an art & culture exhibition. The Sangh also undertakes research works related to Jainism. The Sangh undertook a monumental research and compilation project on the various Digambara and Svetambara holy places that are more than 700 years old and brought out an informative book 'Teerth Dharshan'. The book is encyclopedic in nature and would be of great help to historians and researchers. The Sangh is running a women's college, which it established in 1990. The Sangh proposes to extend its services in healthcare and professional education.

Institutions under the wings of the Sangh:

Guru Shree Shantivijai Jain Vidyalaya

Guru Shree Shantivijai Jain College for Women

**GURU SHREE SHANTIVIJAI JAIN VIDYALAYA
96, VEPERY HIGH ROAD
CHENNAI – 600 007**

The secretary of the Sangh which is managing the school springs a surprise – he is reading a Tamil book on Jaina cave temples of the Sangam Era. Though he had his education in his native town, his interest made him learn the local language when he migrated from Phalodi in 1947. He fills in the interesting facets of the school's history.

It was still the pre-matriculation period in the nineteen sixties. Everyone preferred a convent-education. The Jain schools that had begun functioning then were also imparting education only through Hindi. As Jain children too preferred to study in English medium schools, the Jains in Choolai area, under the guidance of Shri Pannalal Vaid decided to establish a school. Shree Jain Bala Vidyalaya was started in 1966 with the aim of providing quality education at affordable costs.

The School with thirty-five students functioned temporarily in a room of Choolai Jain temple for three months. Then it functioned in Shree Kasturchand Kochar's house from where it moved to a rented house in Swami Pillai Street.

By this time the Kalyan Sangh had been formed and it took over the school. The Sangh then purchased a land measuring a little over six grounds in Atkinson road. The property was bought from Shri Vangeyzel. On a visit to the school, the then principal of Loyola College, Dr. Murphy advised the management to go in for a bigger property—that measured at least two acres. After four years of functioning in Atkinson road, the school was shifted to its present location in 1972. This property on Vepery High Road had belonged to the American Baptist Mission Church –the Telugu Baptist Church still exists adjacent to the campus. After some chance events, Dr. Louis F. Knoll of the Mission not only arranged for the sale of the property but also handed it over even before receiving the entire payment. This enabled the Sangh to shift the school, which by then had been renamed as Guru Shree Shantivijai Jain Vidyalaya in 1972.

The Sangh follows some different principles. They decided on a common name for the school and not any individual's and hence decided on Guruji's. Even the souvenir they have brought out gives a lot of interesting information and appears like a book of facts. The sponsors appear as addresses in the bottom of the page. The Sangh took a conscious decision not to seek government aid to run the school. Because well wishers and experts in the academic field had advised that such a move might bring in complacency that might reduce the standard of education. Such is their conviction towards education.

The Sangh's principles and single-minded focus has ensured an unmatched growth of the school. The school is much sought after in this locality. Started with classes up to second standard in 1966, the school was upgraded by a class a year and in 1975 eleventh standard was introduced. In 1973, it was affiliated to the CBSE. The school now has strength of 1200 students who excel academically. The most notable feature of the school is that it has been consistently producing 100% results in the board exams right from the beginning with many a rank at the all India level. The school's technological teaching tools include video, radio, multimedia, OHP, slide projector and LCD projector, housed in a separate Audio-visual hall. The school has a special library for juniors and an independent computer centre for primary children. For kindergarten students a modern Playway Activity Centre functions with the latest educational aids and toys.

The school has categorized the education into scholastic, developmental and co-curricular programmes. Scholastic is based on the syllabi. Developmental includes physical, audio-visual, health, art and value educations under which yoga, meditation and various other activities are taught. Co-curricular activities include creative writing, public speaking, dress designing and JRC among others. Under Co-curricular educational programme, NCC and photography are proposed to be started. The

competitions under each category are planned in advance and listed in the school calendar, giving adequate time for planning and preparation. The students win prizes in inter school competitions, the notable one being the prize won by a student for high jump in the CBSE National Athletic Meet. The school has been honoured with NCERT National Awards for its 'Life Oriented Education Programme' and 'Learners Evaluation and Assessment Programme'.

The management gives Gold & Silver medals to toppers. Staff members are also awarded for attendance and 100% results. The school has been giving scholarships to the needy from 1970 onwards under the Protshan Vriti Scheme. The Sangh has provisions to support up to 100 students a year. On an average 40-50 students are benefited by these scholarships. So far more than two thousand students have benefited from this scheme.

**GURU SHREE SHANTIVIJAI JAIN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
96, VEPERY HIGH ROAD
CHENNAI - 600 007**

Situated in one of the earliest Jain settlements of Chennai, namely Vepery, this college was founded by Shree Mahaveer Jain Kalyan Sangh. Named after the famous saint Guru Shri Shantivijai of Mount Abu – popularly known as 'Abu Ke Yogiraj', the college was inaugurated on the 30th January of 1990, the hundredth birth anniversary of the Guru.

Started with two courses namely B.Com & B.A. Corporate Secretary ship, the college now offers eight UG & two PG courses. From 31 students in B.Com and 34 in B.A Corporate Secretaryship in the first year, to the present 1500 students it has been an enormous growth in a matter of 12 years. A local resident says that she was not aware of the starting of the college. Within three years of inception, with a bevy of girls around the presence of the college was felt. The honorary secretary Shri P.Gautam Vaid attributes this to the number of courses introduced, the facilities and the standard of education.

The campus is constantly abuzz with activities. Each department conducts seminars, guest lectures and intra-collegiate events that infuse elements of fun and creativity into academic concepts. For example the Commerce and Corporate Secretaryship conducted 'Corp-toons' through which the students had to explain complex corporate concepts in a humorous way. The Computer science and IT departments conducted 'C Thru' to test the analytic and debugging skills of participants. The activities are spread throughout the year that each month, the students have something to look forward to. The college also conducts inter-collegiate cultural festival every year. The cultural fetes conducted by other colleges see the active participation of the students. They have won prizes in debates, essay writing, folk dance etc. and the offbeat designing of greeting card, jewellery, ad, etc. In the beginning of an academic year, the college conducts a special programme for the freshers which helps the students break ice with seniors and also in identifying new talents.

Be it a cultural programme, a seminar or a guest lecture well-known personalities in their respective fields grace the occasions. These include IAS officers Shri Vivek Harinarain, Ms. Meenakshi Rajagopal, Shri Shakthikanta Das, Shri R. Subramaniam of Madras Chamber of Commerce, Dr.S.P. Rajagopalan, Development Council Dean of

Madras University, danseuse Dr. Padma Subramaniam, writer Ms. Vaasanthi among a list of eminent personalities. But what every member of the college holds dear to her heart is the day that President Shri Abdul Kalam visited the college.

Twice a year the college brings out 'GSS chronicle', a newsletter chronicling the events at college. A college magazine is also published that brings the creative talents of the students and staff to the fore. The students enthusiastically celebrate Human Rights Day, World Aids Day, World Disability Day, etc. Student Cell of Indian Society for Training and Development has been functioning in the campus for the past two years. To guide the students in their higher education and career path, a Career Guidance Cell is functioning. Members of Social Service League actively involve themselves in various social awareness programmes.

The students credit their faculty in helping them think beyond their syllabi and studies. The college has produced many university ranks with the English department topping the list in terms of numbers. The campus has very good facilities for outdoor and indoor games. Students appreciate the efforts of their physical education directress and coaches for their performance and success at inter-collegiate, divisional and zonal matches. For most of them took to the game only after stepping into college and do not have any sports history from their school days. They are adept at baseball, cricket, relay, volley ball and kabadi among others.

The management constantly upgrades the facilities, like providing an air-conditioned conference hall, extending library facilities to the departments, procuring LCD projectors, etc. The management also gives Gold medal to university rank holders and department toppers. Students with more than 85% are also given medals. It has also instituted awards for 100% attendance by staff and students. The lecturers producing 100% result are also awarded Gold medals. The administration encourages faculty in upgrading their qualification and knowledge. They are encouraged to present papers and pursue their doctoral studies under Faculty Improvement Programmes. The college is surely, on the path of its credo ' Education for Excellence'.

SRI MARUDHAR KESARI JAIN TRUST

In 1989, Guruji Shri Roop Muniji Maharaj and Guruji Shri Sukan Muniji Maharaj visited Vaniyambadi during the course of a Padayatra that they had undertaken. During their discourse they not only spoke of spiritual matters but also of social concerns including women's emancipation through higher learning.

To give shape to the cause, Shri Kanyalal and eight others who are ardent devotees of Shri Marudhar Kesari joined hands to found the Sri Marudhar Kesari Jain Trust. The Trust which was founded in October 1993 was registered a month later.

Shri Marudhar Kesari originally known as Jain Muni Mishrimal was a versatile personality. A great thinker, orator and a poet who could spout verses spontaneously he was also a polyglot, fluent in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Hindi, Urdu and Rajasthani. Born in 1891 to Shri Sheshamal Solanki and Kesar Bai, he became a Shraman in 1918. His literary and philosophical compositions are compiled as 'Marudhar Kesari Granthavali'. He has also written two epics 'Ram Yashorasayan' and 'Pandava Yashorasayan' based on the Ramayana and the Mahabharata respectively. With such a literary background, it was natural that the trust and the college came to be named after him.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Marudhar Kesari Jain College for Women

Bhagwan Mahaveer Dayaniketan Jain School

**MARUDHAR KESARI JAIN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
CHINNAKALLUPALLI, VANIYAMBADI**

Set in a sprawling campus of sylvan surroundings in a valley facing the Yelagiri Hills, this college provides a congenial atmosphere for the girls who enroll here. The Sri Marudhar Kesari Jain Trust started the college in 1994.

With an offer of only two courses on inception, the college attracted 146 students. Now with eight more courses and an additional two courses in the evening college, the college has more than eight hundred students now.

The management has provided the best infrastructural facilities which have impressed the dignitaries who visited the college – Shri T.N. Seshan, Shri Syed Kirmani and Shri M.S. Udayamurthy among them – as can be seen from their comments.

The facilities include four well-equipped, air-conditioned computer science laboratories with more than 120 computers and a microprocessor laboratory. The library is well stocked with more than five thousand books and a subscription of thirtyseven magazines. For the physical development, courts for various games like cricket, kabadi and hockey are provided in the campus. Indoor and outdoor courts for shuttle badminton are available. The management and staff take all efforts to provide an overall development to the students. In addition to curriculum based seminars and book exhibitions, workshops and special courses on personality development, spoken English classes and problem solving techniques for competitive exams are conducted. Courses on software like Visual Basic, Oracle and MS Office are also conducted. Every student is assigned to a faculty who helps and keeps track of her academic and non-academic activities. To address to the needs of the students a Grievance Cell with representatives from faculty, non-teaching staff and students has been constituted. The college also brings out a magazine by name Amruthavani to whet the creativity and talents of students and staff. A Career Guidance Cell is also proposed to be started.

In addition to organizing cultural events and inter-departmental sports competitions, the students actively participate in competitions conducted by others. Ad zap, quiz, group dance, elocution and recitation of Bharathidasan's poems are some of the competitions held by various colleges and firms where the students have won prizes. A few of the students took part in a group discussion program on Raj TV. In sports activities too, the college has strong Kabadi, Hockey, Chess and Tennikoit teams, which have won prizes at university and division level matches. In individual athletics events too, the students have won in shot put, discuss, five-kilometre walk, long jump at divisional level. In the mini marathon race conducted by Samaritan Adventure Sports Academy of Yelagiri Hills, the students won the first and third places in the first year and all the three prizes in the second year. The management encourages physical activities for the faculty too. The staff proved stronger when they won a match against the outgoing students. Various other matches like throw ball, tennikoit, carom, chess etc are being held for the teaching as well as non-teaching staff. The college also has Karuna Club, Humour, Fine Arts, Blood Donors and Readers Clubs besides Red Cross and two units of NSS. The NSS members conduct various programs and camps in their respective sphere of activities.

The management takes all efforts to provide a stress free atmosphere. Every year students eligible for Government scholarship are recommended and nearly 400 students are benefited. Hostel and transportation facilities reduce the hassle of many a student. The college shines like a beacon drawing students from the hamlets nearby who otherwise might not have stepped into a college.

Though Vellore District is considered backward, the students, most of whom hail from the rural surrounds have produced excellent results. The undergraduate and postgraduate computer science and BCA students have been producing 100% results. This speaks for the efforts and dedication of the staff. When in 2000, a M.Com student Ashtalakshmi secured university rank, the college recognized her skills and talents by recruiting her as a faculty member. Besides her, the college has produced seven university ranks, two of them being toppers.

**BHAGWAN MAHAVEER DAYANIKETAN JAIN SCHOOL
ARIHANTH NAGAR
VELLORE – 632 006**

It is rare to come by a school in TamilNadu affiliated to ICSE. The Bhagwan Mahaveer Dayaniketan School is such a rarity. The seeds for this school were sown by a visionary Shri Rugjee Kanyalal Jain. He studied and analysed the principles of educational psychology of international schools. With many students going abroad for higher studies, he wanted to provide education that would not only be comparable to the one abroad but that which would also be recognized by universities abroad. As the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi is the board whose curriculum is on par with the “O” & “A” level exams of the British boards and as its certificates make entry into foreign universities easier, he decided to go in for ICSE affiliation. With the excellent infrastructure and standards, the school received affiliation in 2002.

The school had its beginning as a primary school in 1996 and was named as the Dayaniketan Jain school, ‘Dayaniketan’ meaning abode of grace. It initially functioned in a rented building in Gandhi Nagar, Vellore. Then the Sri Marudhar Kesari Jain Trust decided to go in for its own premises and bought a sixteen-plot property in Arihant Nagar. As the school moved to its permanent building which is three-storeyed, it was renamed as the Bhagwan Mahaveer Dayaniketan Jain School. With well-ventilated classrooms and labs the school has a separate hall for conducting examinations. Upgraded to a high school, the first set of students will be appearing for their tenth standard board examination in 2004.

With English as the medium of instruction, Tamil and Hindi are offered as second and third languages. Students are initiated into computer education in LKG itself. Apart from karate and dance coaching, various inter-house activities are held every week. The students have a garden to grow medicinal plants. Besides, various social projects in paramedical and eradication of communicable diseases are undertaken. The students have won many prizes in inter-school competitions, notably in oration, dance, singing and painting. The campus has a big playground that enables the students to excel themselves in kabadi, kho-kho, volleyball, shuttle, football and other track events. The management has instituted various rolling shields to recognize students’ talents in their academic and co-curricular activities.

The school with its good foundation laid by Shri Kanyalal and the first principal, Smt. Jayashree Natarajan is being raised and moulded by the present principal Shri G.Thirunavukkarasu.

SHREE CHANDRAPRABHU JAIN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Nearly thirty like-minded members of the Jain community joined hands to carry out their social responsibilities. With a special interest in educational service, they founded the Shree Chandraprabhu Jain Educational Foundation in 1997, which in turn set up the college in the same year. Started as a men’s college, the foundation decided

to admit girls in 2002. Presently, the members are keen on developing and stabilizing the college to make learning a pleasant experience.

Institution under the wings of the Foundation:
Shree Chandraprabhu Jain College

SHREE CHANDRAPRABHU JAIN COLLEGE
MINJUR – KATTUR ROAD
MINJUR – 601 203

The College, named after one of the Tirthankars Shree Chandraprabhu, had an auspicious beginning on the Vijayadasami Day in 1997. Started with a handful of students – fifteen to be exact – in two courses together, the strength has grown manyfold in six years. This speaks volumes for the reputation it enjoys in the locality.

The college started functioning from October 1977 with B.Sc Computer Science and B.Com courses. The management, with the aim of making learning a pleasant experience has built the college in a sprawling campus away from the bustle of the city. But at the same time it is well connected by road and rail so that commuting is not a hassle. The landscaped campus with more than one lakh sft. of built-up area has very good infrastructure. The college now offers eight under-graduate courses and two post-graduate courses, namely Information Technology and Social Work. For the language paper, Hindi and Tamil are the options on offer.

The management and staff encourage students to conduct and participate in various academic & non-academic activities. Providing two of their students the opportunity to computerize the library, rather than calling external experts is just one example of the kind of encouragement accorded to the students. The library is well-stocked with more than 6000 titles. In addition to conducting a cultural festival in the campus, the students have won prizes in many inter-collegiate competitions held by MGR Janaki College for Women, Vellayammal Trust, Loyola College and MOP Vaishnav College among others. The Economics department of the college organized an inter-collegiate debate on 'Economic Reforms for Development'. An exhibition on 'Environment and Healthy Living' saw more than thousand students from various colleges attending it. Students also participate in seminars conducted by other institutions, notable among them being Madras School of Social Work and Loyola College. The college also organizes guest lectures by faculty from IIT, MMA, Madras University and Corporates like Pentamedia and First Computers. The topics are such that they cover the latest trends in the respective fields and guide the students towards their career path. For the latter purpose, a career Guidance and Counselling Centre was started in the college premises in July 2003. Besides, various Personality development, Yoga, Karate, Meditation and computer oriented courses are conducted for the benefit of the students. To give a medium for the expression of the thoughts and talents of the students, a magazine by name 'Shree' is brought out every year.

With the dedicated band of staff guiding their students in their curricular and co-curricular activities, it is only natural that they too are active in their fields of study. The staff Shri Kothandaram, Ms.Selvi Philomena, Shri Nagajothi, Ms.Sangeetha Jain, Shri Muruga Prakash and Shri V.N.Subramanian have presented papers in national seminars and many have attended the Faculty Development & Induction Training programmes conducted by AICTE. And it is a privilege that Dr. Balakrishnan, the principal and Shri Vasanthakumar, the head of Tamil Department are members of Academic Council of Madras University. The principal is also a senate member of the University. The college has also initiated a study circle for the staff members to develop and enhance their skills.

With NCC's Air wing, NSS and Youth Red Cross active in the college, students are into various social service activities. They conduct medical and blood donation camps, visit various charitable organizations like Visranthi, Institute of mental health, etc. and organise awareness programmes in various villages in Vellore district. NCC members have participated in various programmes including Republic Day parade and Rifle & Pistol Firing Program. It was a proud moment for the NCC when its members were awarded a medal in Cadotsav.

The importance laid on physical fitness by the management is obvious from the fact that, a gym has been set up within the campus. The students have won prizes in best physique, powerlifting, badminton and Javelin throw in various sports meets.

With the efforts of the management and faculty, more than three hundred students have become eligible to benefit by the government scholarships under various categories. Sha Hazarimal Jasraj Sakaria Charitable Trust has awarded merit-cum-means scholarships of Rs.2500/- each to ten students.

The enthusiasm and focus with which the management and staff have been taking measures in improving the college has laid a strong foundation. And the institution is poised for an excellent growth on this foundation.

**HARAN DHIVUBAI INDERMALJI JAIN MATRICULATION
HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
NYLON NAGAR
PASUMALAI
MADURAI – 625 004**

Started in 1989 by the Dhivubai Indermalji Charitable Trust, the school has been making a name for itself in the locality. Shri Bagadawarmal Jain started the school as a service project and named it after his parents Shri Indermal Haran and Smt. Dhivubai Haran. Started as a primary school, government recognition was received in 1991. With recognition and repute came demand and the school was upgraded year by year and the first set of higher secondary students appeared for their board exams in 1996. The consistent 100% results in the board exams speak of the standard of the school and the commitment of its staff.

With English as the medium of instruction, Tamil is offered as the second language and options between Hindi and Sanskrit for third language. Focused on the overall development of students, the management has introduced karate, swimming, music, tailoring, yoga and dance classes as co-curricular activities. This and sports coaching have enabled the students to win inter school competitions and in sports meets at the district level. With the present emphasis on computer education, students are given the same from the first standard onwards.

The school offers both matriculation and state curriculum. Students who score more than 85% in the tenth matriculation and state board exams are given complete fee exemption in higher secondary.

COIMBATORE WELFARE ASSOCIATION

The association was started by a group of philanthropic North Indian businessmen, many of them Jains, in 1964. It was started, as a welfare organisation

without any religious identity to cater to the social welfare needs of the Coimbatore public. The association, under the leadership of Shri Kanaklal Abhaichand and Shri R.G. Bhuradia, established a school by name Shri Nehru Vidyalaya in 1964. During its silver jubilee celebrations in 1989, it started an arts and science college, Shri Nehru Maha Vidyalaya. It is now working towards making the college a deemed university by adding more staff quarters, a separate library block and an indoor auditorium. The future plan includes the construction of a sports stadium of international standards.

Institutions under the wings of the Association:

Shri Nehru Vidyalaya Matriculation Hr. Sec. School

Shri Nehru Maha Vidyalaya College of Arts and Science

**SHRI NEHRU VIDYALAYA MATRICULATION
HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
ROBERTSON ROAD
R.S.PURAM
COIMBATORE – 641 002**

A school named after the evergreen 'chacha' of children. A school to cherish his memories and fulfill his visions. That is Shri Nehru Vidyalaya.

The Vidyalaya had a humble beginning with eleven students. Started as a primary school in 1964 the school was gradually upgraded and is presently a higher secondary school with nearly two thousand students. The Vidyalaya was started with the aim of imparting CBSE education and received CBSE affiliation in 1972. With many a request from parents, it was changed to matriculation system in 1982. Before the building was constructed in its present premises in R.S.Puram it functioned at Big Bazaar Street and at Venkatasamy Road.

With English as the medium of instruction, the students have the options of Hindi, Tamil and Sanskrit for their second and third language papers. As the management stresses on overall excellence, teachers are selected with utmost care for appointment. This has resulted in various state ranks in individual subjects as well as in total scores in both matriculation and higher secondary board exams throughout the years.

The principal Shri Natarajan has written a total of twelve books on Tamil Grammar, Tamil rhymes, etc. for various publications. In 1998, the principal was honoured with the 'Dr. Radhakrishnan award' for best teacher. The list of the books written by the staff of the school is long and impressive.

Shri G.R. Subramanian and Shri R.J. Santhosh Kumar - Hindi text books

Shri C. Chithambarakuttalam - Two biology books

Shri G. Lakshmeesan - physics practical book

Ms. Susheela Shanmugham - Social studies

Ms. Amrutha Soundararajan - Social studies

Ms. T. Kanchana and Ms. V. Ranjani - Chemistry books & manual for practicals

Ms. K.V. Sharadha & Ms. K. Revathy - History text and workbooks

Ms. K. Prema & Ms. Chitra Ranganathan - Geography text and workbooks

Shri S.M. Mariappan - Drawing

Ms. B. Rama Devi - English non-detailed books

These books have been written for various publications, for both state board syllabus and matriculation. With the guidance of such intellectual faculty, it is little wonder that the school has been consistently producing state ranks.

Besides an active extra-curricular activities club, coaching is given for karate, music and dance. In sports activities too, the students have been regularly participating in and winning prizes at district, state and national levels in chess, table tennis, cricket, kabaddi and badminton.

With the education sector becoming IT-oriented, students are initiated into computers right from first standard. With a well-stocked library with more than 10000 books and with a subscription of nearly 25 magazines, the staff members encourage students to develop their reading habits.

**SHRI NEHRU MAHA VIDYALAYA COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE
MALUMACHAMPATTI
COIMBATORE – 641 026**

With the aim of furthering the educational services they were offering, the Coimbatore Welfare Association established the college in 1989. Catering to the aspirations of the students in the vicinity and beyond, the college has had a remarkable growth.

The college had its beginning in 1989 with ninety students in three undergraduate course of Commerce, Business management and Computer Science. The college now offers nine undergraduate courses and four post graduate courses; the latter were started in 1994. It is now being shaped into a research-oriented institution. With generous contribution from members of Coimbatore Welfare Association and various philanthropists, the management has provided excellent infrastructure.

Apart from the regular curriculum, various short-term vocational courses are offered. These include Tally software, mushroom cultivation technology, MS-Office and beautician course among others. The number of vocational courses is increased every year depending on the interest of the students and the demand for the particular course in the job market. Other than such career-oriented courses, coaching classes are conducted for karate, yoga etc. The students are active members in NSS, NCC and YRC. The most prestigious laurel that the students have brought to college—other than in poem, essay competitions etc—is the 'Best Youth Parliament award' and the business quiz prize conducted on board the ship to Andaman, 'Swaraj Dweep'.

With a computer lab fitted with the latest machines, each student is encouraged to enhance his computer knowledge. For the language paper, students can opt for Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam or French. With the library subscribing to more than fifty Indian and foreign journals, the students are equipped with the latest developments in their field of study. With such extensive facilities it is not surprising that the students have been securing university ranks.

The college has provided the requisites for team games like football, cricket, volleyball and kho-kho. Apart from the prizes the students win in inter-collegiate sports meets, they represent Bharathiar University football team and chess team; some are members of district teams in Broad jump and Triple jump. Among the individual games, students have been winning in power lifting and best physique categories. The notable one is the national championship in Shito-Ryn style of karate that a student has won more than ten times.

The management too recognizes meritorious academic achievements of students in each department and rewards them with Gold medals and cash awards. It also provides institutional scholarship to deserving students in the undergraduate courses. Besides, the college arranges for government scholarships under various categories and also scholarships from private institutions.

Having honed the skills of students, the college authorities are proud of the career achievements of their alumni. Some have become scientists and have taken up research in cell science, cotton research, biochemistry and bio-informatics in Indian and foreign institutions. While MBA students occupy managerial posts in companies like Gemini, Ernst & Young, SBI and Essae Technologies, the software students are placed in Alcatel, Infosys and Wipro among others. The career growth of alumni speaks for the standard of the college.

SRI JAIN SHIKSHAN SANGH

In the early forties and fifties, those who wanted to study in a Hindi medium school had to travel long distances to go to AG Jain School in Sowcarpet. Shri Vijailal Kothari remembers their trip to school everyday. His grandfather had come from Lohawat Marwar nearly hundred and fifty years ago and the family settled down here. Bearing the commuting problem in mind, the Jain elders in Royapuram and surrounding North Madras localities decided to start a Hindi medium school. So in 1960, with the initiative taken by Shri Lalchand Marlecha, Shri Jawanthraj Kothari, Shri Misrimal Surana, Shri Kanniahlal Ranka, Shri Umraomal Marlecha, Shri Punamchand Golecha, Shri Shivraj Khatod, Shri Deepchand Mehata and Shri Ghisulal Parmar, Shree Jain Hindi Vidyalaya was started in 1960. Shri Kothari, who rose to become a senior official in IOB, claims that most of the middle-aged Jains in the locality are alumni of the Vidyalaya. The school functioned in a building owned by one of the Sangh members, Shri Umraomal Marlecha which was subsequently owned by Sri Jain Medical Relief Society. As the strength increased, the need for bigger premises was felt. To register the school building and to undertake the other formalities, a registered society by name Sri Jain Shikshan Sangh was formed in 1968. The Sangh runs three institutions. The Sangh proposes to add to the existing classrooms, as there is a need for it and get a playground for the school.

Institutions under the wings of the Sangh:

Shree Goutamchand Kothari Jain Primary School
Shree Goutamchand Kothari Jain Hr. Sec. School
Shree Goutham Jain Nursery & Primary School

**SHREE GOUTAMCHAND KOTHARI JAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL
115, MANNAR SWAMY KOIL STREET
ROYAPURAM
CHENNAI – 600 013**

Shree Jain Hindi Vidyalaya was started in 1960 not only for the Jains but for others as well who might be interested in studying in Hindi medium. With funds from the Sangh, land was purchased and with donations from the community, buildings were constructed.

During the construction of the new building, a four-year-old student Goutham Babu, son of Shri Vijailal Kothari of the school met with a fatal accident. In his memory, his grandfather Shri Jeswanthraj Kothari and his paternal uncle Shri Tarachand Kothari

made a donation. The Sangh led by Shri Lalchand Marlecha decided to rename the school as Shree Gouthamchand Kothari Jain Primary School and the baby section was named as 'Goutham-Shishu Varg'. In 1973, the school received government recognition and aid. The Primary school- where the medium of instruction is Hindi – is guided by headmistress Mrs. N. Santhiya. Shri Jawarilal M. Bohra, Shri Chainraj Kataria as administrators are playing an effective role in the running of the school.

**SHREE GOUTHAMCHAND KOTHARI JAIN HR. SEC. SCHOOL
115, MANNAR SWAMY KOIL STREET
ROYAPURAM
CHENNAI – 600 013**

As the strength of the students in Primary School started increasing and as the school had received government approval, seventh and eighth standards were introduced in 1974 and 1975 respectively. When the Sangh decided to upgrade the school further, Jeswanthraj Kothari and his son Tarachand Kothari contributed generously. The school was named as Shree Gouthamchand Kothari Jain High School. With the effort of the school authorities and the Sangh members, the school introduced higher secondary in 1997. From a humble origin of a handful of students, the school's strength has had an enormous growth.

The headmaster Shri P.K. Venkatesan with his rich and long experience from the Amoluckchand Galada Jain Higher secondary school has lofty plans for the school. He has introduced Dharmik and Yoga classes as he feels that the young minds would imbibe the religious and human values that are sure to help them stand in good stead in future. Mr. Venkatesan credits his staff and his predecessor Mr. Ramaswamy – who had an eleven-year tenure – for the astounding success of the school. It is no mean achievement as the school has been continuously producing a cent percent result in the tenth standard public exams from 1993 onwards. “ This year also we will”, the headmaster avers. And as proof for that one can see Mr. Venkatesan cajoling his students into perfection – even though he does not handle classes for them. During lunch breaks, his cabin becomes a veritable classroom. Even though most of the students hail from families without much educational background and hence guidance, the teachers put in all efforts, staying behind after school hours to give the students a good grounding.

The headmaster's immediate plans include getting more space to improvise on the existing laboratory and other facilities, to have a playground – the students now use the corporation playground nearby – and to have a boys wing for the higher secondary classes as the school now takes only girls. In higher secondary, Maths, Commerce and Dress Designing are offered through English medium. The headmaster also plans to introduce dance and music lessons. With his aim on academics and also on character building, he wants the school to be Numero Uno among the schools in the locality.

The school students have brought laurels to the school by winning prizes in Inter-district science competition, state-level Ramanujam Maths competition, Discuss throw, Government-sponsored painting competition in Gandhi Mandapam on Labour Day, Maths competition at Velammal school, Galada trophy in cricket and various other literary and interschool competitions. On the academics side, the school has received Best Performance award from Jain Social Federation and Rotary Club. The school has retained the rolling shield given by Rotary Club for cent percent result in tenth board examinations. The certificates awarded by the Government of Tamilnadu for 100% results fill the walls without a gap.

The school also conducts interschool competitions. More than seven hundred students from twenty schools participated in the last interschool competitions. The competitions were held under four categories, namely Primary, Junior, Senior and Super senior. In addition to the regular essay, oratorical, etc. Competitions included fancy dress, folk dance, vegetable carving, junk art, embroidery, etc. The games competitions included chess, carrom and cricket.

Chairman of the school Shri Champalal Rathod and secretary Shri Jawarilal Bohra are a constant source of inspiration and encouragement to the staff and students. Other than the management's contribution, various donors have instituted endowments to encourage the students. Shri Manakchand Udayraj Trust, Shri Gouthamchand Kothari Charitable Trust, Shri Sampathlal Bafna Trust and Shri Madanlal Kothari recognise the top scorers in SSLC exams. Shri Tarachand Kothari Memorial Award, and Shri Mishrilal Bohra Trophies are given to the top scorer in SSLC and HSCC respectively. Shri Deoraj, Shri Nemichand Dugar Charitable Trust, Sancheti Motors, Shri Champalal Rathod, Dhanraj Baid Charity Trust and Shri Nemichand Ashok Kumar Sethia have instituted prizes for best performance, excellence in arts and crafts, literary field and sports. In 2003, Mahendra Kumar Jewellers, Samatha Electronics and Jain Printers have added another Rs. 14,000 towards endowment. Shri Shantinath Bhagwan Jain Shwetamber Mandir Trust and Shri Champalal Ashok Kumar Nimani provide scholarship to economically weak students. The management also gives free uniforms to nearly hundred and fifty students and fee exemptions to nearly fifty students. The Rajasthan Cosmo Club also contributes to support the needy.

**SHREE GOUTHAM JAIN NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL
115, MANNAR SWAMY KOIL STREET
ROYAPURAM
CHENNAI – 600 013**

As the focus shifted towards educating children through the medium of English, the Sangh felt the necessity to start an English medium school. Thus was formed the Shree Goutham Jain Nursery and Primary School. With classes from pre-KG to fifth standard, the school follows the state board syllabus. The school was recognised in 1999 by the Government of Tamilnadu.

Started with an initial strength of hundred and fifty students, the school presently has a strength of three hundred students. Having received government recognition and with plans to upgrade the school, it is bound to bring in more students. Computer education is introduced from first standard onwards. Students have the choice of Tamil and Hindi as second language. The school is being ably guided by the headmistress Smt. R. Brinda.

The school has twenty computers, which is used by the students of Hindi as well as English medium schools. With a common library having more than five thousand titles, the school also subscribes to magazines like Aajkal and Navbharat. The school is being run efficiently under the guidance of Shri Champalal Rathod, Shri Jawarilal Bohra, Shri Vijailal Kothari and Shri Anraj Bohra.

SRI SHANTI VIJAI EDUCATIONAL TRUST, OOTY

The Trust was founded and registered in 1991. The founder of Sri Shanti Vijai Jain schools, Shri Balchand Batchavat came on horseback from Phalodi in Rajasthan. With support and inspiration from his wife, he established the schools over a period of years. Though the first of the five schools under the Trust was established as early as in 1928, the Trust was founded later to bring the schools under one umbrella. Shri

Batchavat, Shri Premraj Golecha, Shri Nathmal Vaid and Shri Anopchand Jobakh were instrumental in forming the Trust. The management supplies free uniforms and books and waives fees for the deserving. This benefits around fifty students from each school. Also to encourage toppers in subjects and sports, the management awards medals and cash prizes. Some donors like Shri N. Krishnamoorthi and Ms. T.M. Mitchiammal have also instituted endowments. The future plans of the Trust include the founding of a college.

Institutions under the wings of the Trust:

Sri Shanti Vijai Primary School, Ooty
Sri Shanti Vijai Nursery & Primary School, Ooty
Sri Shanti Vijai Girls' Hr. Sec. School, Ooty
Sri Shanti Vijai Girls' Hr. Sec. & Primary School, Coonoor
Sri Shanti Vijai High School, Masinagudi

SRI SHANTHI VIJAI PRIMARY SCHOOL ETTINES ROAD, UDHAGAMANDALAM - 643001

The primary school was started in the pre-independence era, way back in 1928. The brainchild of Shri Balchand Batchavat, the school began its life as a Tamil medium one with just ten students. With such a humble beginning, the school has grown to a strength of more than thousand students.

The school received recognition in 1928 and follows the state board syllabus.

Students are introduced to computers in third standard. The headmistress Ms. R. Amirtham and the correspondent Shri Manakchand Golecha are the guiding force behind the school. With scholarships to deserving students and awards for talented ones, the management is giving the students and school administrators their entire support.

SRI SHANTHI VIJAY NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL UDHAGAMANDALAM

The latest addition to the stable of schools managed by the Sri Shanti Vijay Educational Trust, the Nursery and Primary School was started in 2002.

This being an English medium school and the reputation enjoyed by the other two schools have brought in a considerable number of students. Maintaining uniformity in their standards, the management has introduced the same facilities here, as in the other schools. Computer education is started in third standard. With the support and encouragement of the management in the form of infrastructural facilities, scholarships, awards etc. this school is also sure to shine like its sister institutions.

SRI SHANTHI VIJAI GIRLS' HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL ETTINES ROAD UDHAGAMANDALAM – 643 001

Named after Guru Shri Shanti Vijai, the girls' school was started as a high school in 1954. Founded by Shri Balchand Batchavat, the school was started with Tamil as the medium of learning. Later, as English emerged as the preferred medium, the school

introduced the same in 1972. Presently, the school has both Tamil and English medium classes.

As the school started functioning after approval from the government, it had considerably a good initial strength of 240 students. With a strong foundation laid by the first headmistress, Ms.L. Chari, her successors built on it and the school at present has one thousand seven hundred and forty students. And they are now being moulded by correspondent Shri S. Motilal Kataria and headmistress Ms. Meenakumari. Higher secondary classes were introduced in 1993. In keeping with the trends, computer education has also been introduced. The students are active in Red Cross and Guides movements.

The school has produced state and district ranks in tenth standard board exams. Former headmistress, Smt. T.J. Mitchi is a recipient of the State government's 'Best Teacher' award. The students have also received prizes at district level sports. With educational and moral encouragement, the school has produced many professionals in the fields of medicine, law and politics. The management too recognizes them with prizes and awards. It also offers scholarships to deserving students.

**SRI SHANTHI VIJAI GIRLS' HR. SEC. SCHOOL &
PRIMARY SCHOOL
MOUNT PLEASANT, COONOR**

The girls' school in Coonoor was started in 1964. Right from inception, it has been offering education through the mediums of English and Tamil. Shri Balchand Batchavat gave the idea of starting the school and with contributions from philanthropists, the buildings were constructed. The school follows the state board syllabi. It received Government approval in 1964, the year of inception. The management has instituted awards and scholarships for the talented and the needy.

SRI SHANTI VIJAI HIGH SCHOOL, MASINAGUDI

The school had its beginning in 1968. With the populace and locality in mind the school was started with Tamil medium instruction. Functioning in the same premises right from inception, it got its seal of approval from Government in 1968. The school is being guided by headmaster Shri N. Natarajan and Secretary Shri Lakshmichand. The management offers scholarships on a merit basis as well as for the economically weak students.

GUJARATI SEVA SAMAJ EDUCATIONAL TRUST, MADURAI

The Gujarati Seva Samaj Educational Trust under the wing of Gujarati Seva Samaj was formed in 1978. It was the result of the efforts taken by Shri G.P.Sangoye, Shri R.M. Lalan, Shri J.L. Shah, Shri Arvind D. Shah, Shri G.K.Vora and Shri Tilokchand. The Trust established Sha Dargajee Heerajee Jain Vidyalaya in 1979 as a service project. The Trust also runs a computer centre.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:

Sha Dargajee Heerajee Jain Vidyalaya Matric & Hr. Sec. School

**SHA DARGAJEE HEERAJEE JAIN VIDYALAYA
MATRICULATION & HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**NEW NATHAM ROAD
THIRUPPALAI
MADURAI – 625 014**

The Trust started the school as an educational service project in 1979. It was started as a primary school and was named after the chief donor Shri Dargajee Heerajee. The school initially functioned in Palam Station Road at Sellur in Madurai. With government recognition, the school was upgraded to a high school in 1984 and higher secondary school in 1987. As the strength increased, the trust purchased additional premises. In the early nineties, buildings were constructed in the new premises at New Natham Road in Tiruppalai. Now the kindergarten functions at Sellur and the rest at Tiruppalai.

The co-educational English medium school is affiliated to the Matriculation board. The students can choose from a pool of Hindi, Tamil, Gujarati and Sanskrit for second and third languages. In higher secondary, Maths group and Biology group are offered under the Science stream. Commerce stream has two groups with Commerce, Economics and Accountancy as the main subjects and Business Maths and Computer Science as the optionals.

The authorities organize Open Days after exams to enable parents to learn about the performance of their children from the teachers. A major attraction of the school is its swimming pool. The pool and water are maintained as per the standards and girls and boys are coached separately. Other extra-curricular activities include Arts and crafts, karate, Cosmos club for dramatics, Literary Association, Vocal and instrumental music and Interact club. The students also undertake various projects under NCC, Scouts and Guides. The library too is well-stocked and more than fifty periodicals are subscribed. Computer education is imparted from second standard onwards.

The management operates adequate buses since the school is in the suburbs of Madurai. It encourages top scorers of board exams with cash awards. With its motto of 'where there is education, there is salvation', the school is on its path of making education within the reach of everyone.

**SRI SAYARDEVI DHANMULL SOWCAR EDUCATIONAL TRUST
TIRUVANNAMALAI**

Shri V. Dhanmull Sowcar, after whom the Trust is named was a well-known philanthropist of Tiruvannamalai. To perpetuate the memory of this illustrious person, his four sons, Shri Sampathraj Sowcar, Shri Vijayaraj Sowcar, Shri Dharmichand Sowcar and Shri Drejmull Sowcar founded a family trust by name 'Sri Sayardevi Dhanmull Sowcar Educational Trust'. Their source of inspiration and guidance was their mother Smt. Sayardevi. The Trust that was founded and registered in 1981, started Sri V.D.S. Jain School immediately as the trustees believed in the words 'Imparting education is service to God'.

Apart from running the school, the Trust distributes notebooks, uniforms and scholarships, pays the fees of many school and college students and conducts regular medical and eye camps. The Trust has also donated towards infrastructure development of Shanmuga Industries Government Higher Secondary School and Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School. With a secular outlook, they contribute towards construction of Jain temples as well as provision of amenities at Arunachala temple. The Government Hospital at Tiruvannamalai also has been benefitting from the contributions of the Trust.

**SHRI V. DHANMULL SOWCAR JAIN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
GANDHI NAGAR
TIRUVANNAMALAI – 606 601**

The reputation that the school has built up has reached beyond the limits of the Tiruvannamalai town and brings in students from the surrounding rural areas. The credit goes to the first Managing Director of the Trust Shri Sampathraj Sowcar, the first Correspondent Shri Vijayaraj Sowcar, Committee member Shri Drejmull Sowcar, the first headmaster Shri Azariah Isaccs, his successor Shri R. Chandrasekaran and the dedicated staff. Shri Isaccs and Shri Chandrasekaran were both 'Best Teacher' award winners. The strong foundation that was laid has helped the successive school administrators to mould it towards perfection.

The school added itself to the existing educational institutions in June 1981. Making a beginning as a high school with 281 students in sixth, seventh and eighth standards, the school had a steady growth with upgradation and higher secondary was introduced in 1986. The school received government recognition and aid in the same year of inception. Established as a Tamil medium school, the management introduced English medium classes in 1986 due to a great demand and request from parents. In higher secondary, Science group is offered with three options of Biology, Maths and Computer Science. While the Science and Economics groups are offered in Tamil and English mediums, History group is available in the Tamil medium wing. The English medium wing has a vocational group with subjects on programming, typing and business machines.

Shri Dharmichand Sowcar who has been the correspondent since 1988 and headmaster Shri R. Ganesan strive and steer the institution towards perfection. Taking in suggestions from parents and teachers, the management has introduced Yoga, Spoken English and Jeevan Vigyan as co-curricular activities to develop the personality of the children. Apart from these, life-oriented education, arts and value education are also stressed upon and coaching given for the same. To help students imbibe concern about society, NSS, JRC and Scout are functioning in the school.

The same stress is laid on the physical development of the students too. With a five-acre sports ground, the students are adept at basketball, volleyball, ball badminton and shuttle and many individual athletics and games.

The management gives free uniforms, free books and notebooks and fee concessions to deserving students. Since students from the surrounding rural areas leave home early to come to school and as they are economically weak, they are given a nourishing ragi malt. Nearly 250 students are benefitted by this scheme. Class toppers are encouraged with various prizes. The management and staff have joined hands to work towards 'Education for All'.

SHRI VARDHAMAN CHARITABLE TRUST, VIRINCHIPURAM

Shri Vardhaman Charitable Trust had its beginning in 1990. It was the result of efforts taken by Shri M. Bhawarlal Jain, Shri M. Sajjanraj Jain, Shri G. Mahaveerchand and Shri R. Parasmal Jain and was registered as a charitable trust in 1995. The aims of the trust were to establish a English medium school for the benefit of rural students, to promote and advance the educational, medical, social and moral welfare of the public irrespective of caste and community and to give financial assistance for the above-

mentioned causes. The trust proposes to run a hospital in the school premises for the benefit of the students and the public. It also plans to introduce higher secondary classes.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:
Shri Vardhman Jain Matriculation School

**SHRI VARDHAMAN JAIN MATRICULATION SCHOOL
VIRINCHIPURAM - 632 104**

The school came into being in 1992 as a Primary school in a rented building. It started functioning with a strength of just 36 students in all the five classes put together, under the guidance of principal Ms. Vijayalakshmi. Situated in Virinchipuram, a village close to Vellore, the school has had a commendable growth. The school now functions in its own building with a total of 28 classrooms in two floors, separate science and computer labs. The management is constructing another building for kindergarten and library. Shri Vardhaman Jain matriculation became a high school in 1997 and received government recognition in 2002. With its present strength of 700 students, the school is being steered by correspondent Shri Mahaveer and principal Ms. C. Janaki.

Though many of the students are first generation learners, with the extra efforts taken by the teachers, they are able to compete with students from other schools. The staff pay special attention to slow learners. So far three batches of students have appeared for the matriculation public examinations, clearing the same with 100% results each time. Proof enough for the dedication of the teachers.

The school is affiliated to the matriculation board. From LKG, students start learning Tamil and from first standard Hindi. Hindi, as a third language was introduced in 1998. When the students reach seventh standard, each student is sent for Prathmic exam and in eighth standard for Madhyama exams, conducted by the Hindi Prachar Sabha of Chennai. Presently, students have computer education from fourth standard onwards. From this academic year, it is proposed to be introduced in third standard itself. Besides, computers are used as an additional tool for LKG students in teaching them alphabets. The extra-curricular activities include Karuna club and yoga classes. Regular recitation, drawing, singing and other academic competitions are held. Students are also taken on educational tours and field trips. They participate and win prizes in competitions and sports - the notable one being the zonal level prize in running race. The school has a 1.75 acre playground. This has enabled the students in strengthening their football, volleyball, tennikoit and cricket skills.

The students are encouraged in their studies by awards. A trustee of the school rewards the SSLC topper with a gold coin and each section topper with a silver coin. Economically weak students are supported by philanthropists who pay their fees. The management is planning to upgrade the school further by adding higher secondary courses.

SAAYARBAI EDUCATIONAL & CHARITABLE TRUST, VELLORE

Ganadipathy Tulsi's Engineering College, Vellore was established and is being run by the Saayarbai Educational & Charitable Trust. The brain behind the Trust is Shri H. Mittalal Jain, a philanthropic businessman whose motto is to 'serve the society'. With the aim of providing quality higher and technical education and social service, the Trust was formed and registered in 1998.

Shri Mittalal's grandfather Shri Rathanchand Jain came from Bagri in Rajasthan to KGF nearly ninety years back. From there the family moved to Gudiyattam in North Arcot district. Shri Mittalal's father Shri R.H. Surana relocated to Vellore. The former along with his family members has established the Saayarbai Trust named after his mother.

The Trust founded the college in 1999. It is planning to implement various out-reach programmes in the nearby villages. These include Social Forestry programme, Awareness programmes on various social and educational aspects and development through self-help Mahila Mandals. As Vellore district has a high concentration of tannery and leather trades, the Trust proposes to offer Training on Tannery and Leather Works through the distance education directorate of IGNOU. IGNOU has identified the engineering college as its study centre for this purpose.

The Saayarbai Trust also plans to start an orphanage. To enable NRIs contribute to the orphanage and to receive aid from foreign philanthropists, the Trust has sought registration under FCRA – Foreign Contribution Regulation Act. A related future plan includes the implementation of Child Adoption Scheme. Through this scheme the Trust plans to adopt a few bright orphans for educational purposes (ie) the entire educational expenses will be borne by the Trust. And whenever possible the Trust plans to provide employment opportunities too to the adopted students.

Institution under the wings of the Trust:
Ganadhipathy Tulsi's Engineering College

**GANADHIPATHY TULSI'S ENGINEERING COLLEGE
CHITTOOR-CUDDALORE ROAD
KANIYAMBADI
VELLORE – 632 102**

The college founded by Shri H.Mittalal Jain under the Saayarbai Trust is named after his holiness Acharya Sri Ganadhipathy Tulsi. The Acharya worked towards the upliftment of the society and eradication of superstitions. The college is named after him so that it will act as a driving force in fulfilling his visions.

The college, which was established in 1999 with 180 students spread over three branches of engineering, has grown to strength of 900 students in four years.

The college presently offers B.E. degree courses in Electrical and Electronics (EEE), Electronics and Communication (ECE), Computer Science (CSE) and a B.Tech degree course in Information Technology. Civil, Mechanical and Biotechnology courses are awaiting approval. As the college began functioning in a rented building in Vellore,

simultaneous construction activities were carried out in its own premises, a 27-acre property on an arterial road. The college now functions in this campus, which, apart from the regular infrastructure, has photocopying facilities and emergency healthcare services.

The college emphasizes the overall development of the students, which is referred to as 'total transformation'. To achieve this, the students are encouraged to involve themselves in various cultural programmes, games and the social service activities of the Trust. Coaching in Fine Arts – namely vocal music, instrumental music and dance have been started recently. The extra-curricular activities held in the campus have enabled the students to secure prizes in quiz, music, chess, theatre, elocution and collage competitions conducted by Anna University, Tata Infotech and Vellore Institute of Technology among others. The NSS wing of the college joins hands with the Trust to carry out the outreach programmes.

The administration and management have taken measures to ensure that each student possesses all the requisites for an excellent career. In order to achieve this, Spoken English and Hindi are taught as special skills. To fulfill the foreign employment requirements, the management helps the students in getting driving license and passport. All the students are taught the rudiments of computers and are encouraged to develop their knowledge by utilizing the facilities in the college. The college is negotiating with local industries for placement of their students and also with foreign employment agencies. Soon the management proposes to have its own Employment Agency under the ministry of labour welfare. The future plan includes a student exchange programme through Explore India scheme under UGC and Jain Federation.

To ease the financial burden of economically weak students, the college arranges for government scholarships and loans under various categories. The management awards toppers in each branch. Besides, Shri R.H. Surana and Shri H. Ambalal have instituted endowment awards to encourage the students in their academic pursuits.

NAME OF INSTITUTE	YEAR OF INCEPTION	STUDENT STRENGTH	STAFF STRENGTH	BOARD
Shri S.S.Jain Educational Society				
Agurchand Manmull Jain College, Meenambakkam	1952	2253	80	M U
Sri Tarachand Galada Jain Vidyalaya, T. Nagar	1948	406	28	Matric
Shree Amoluckchand Galada Jain Hr. Sec. School, Sowcarpet	1940	755	48	State
Shri Mangichand Bhandari Jain Hr. Sec. School, T. Nagar	1970	580	29	State
Shree Badalchand Sayarchand Chordia Jain Vidyalaya, Sowcarpet	1926	587	28	Matric
Mohanmull Chordia Jain Industrial Training Centre, Meenambakkam	1984	240	25	NCVT
Tamilnadu Educational & Medical Trust				
D.B. Jain College, Thorappakkam	1972	1753	99	M U
Misrimal Nowajee Engineering College, Thorappakkam	1984	1509	284	AI/ A U
Sri. S.S. Jain Sangh				
Sri Champalal Pagariya Jain Hr. Sec. School, Perambur	1977	462	22	State
Smt. Chandabai Pagariya Jain Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Perambur	1986	895	43	Matric
Shree Jain Mission Society				
Shree Jethmal Tikamchand Chajed Jain Mission H.S.S, Sowcarpet	1950	610	36	State
Research Foundation for Jainology				
Jain Vidyashram, Puzhal	1996	600	45	CBSE
Shree S.S. Jain Mahila Vidya Sangh				
Smt. Mangikanwar Anraj Chordia Jain Primary School, Sowcarpet	1953	543	29	State
Ganesh Bai Galada Jain Girls' Hr. Sec. School, Sowcarpet	1961	728	32	State

NAME OF INSTITUTE	YEAR OF INCEPTION	STUDENT STRENGTH	STAFF STRENGTH	BOARD
Chandanmal Abhairaj Nahar Jain Academy for Women, Sowcarpet	1995	101	16	Private
Sri Jain Sangh Trust				
Sri Mahaveer Jain Primary School, Tiruvottiyur	1966	830	36	State
Rajasthan Jain Samaj Educational Trust				
Sri B.S. Mootha Jain Girls' Hr. Sec. School, West Mambalam	1977	1675	99	CBSE
Dhanraj Misrilal Surana Educational Trust				
Shri Dhanraj Misrilal Surana Jain Vidyalaya Mat. School, Tambaram	1990	658	41	Matric
Sri Ramdev Educational & Medical Trust				
Sanghvi Subhadra Chunnalal Ramdev Mat. School, Sowcarpet	1994	213	20	Matric
Dadha & Co. Golden Jubilee Trust				
Lalchand Milapchand Dadha Secondary School, Choolaimedu	1977	771	41	CBSE
Lalchand Dadha Memorial Trust				
Balu Bai Dadha Higher Secondary School, Choolaimedu	1999	81	15	State
R. Misrilal Anchibai Charitable Trust				
Sri R.M. Jain Group of schools	1996	1253	80	CBSE
Terapanth Educational and Medical Trust				
Smt. Gopikanwar Surajkaran Sethia Terapanth Jain Vidyalaya, Perambur	1999	600	41	Matric

NAME OF INSTITUTE	YEAR OF INCEPTION	STUDENT STRENGTH	STAFF STRENGTH	BOARD
Shri Anand Rishi Jain Society Shri Anand Jain Vidyalaya Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Tambaram	1977	1771	80	Matric
Chainmal Surana Charitable Trust Badankanwar Chainmal Surana Jain Mat. School, Old Washermenpet	1996	777	44	Matric
Jawantraj Tejrj Surana Trust Shri Jawanthraj Tejrj Surana Jain Vidhyalaya, Park Town	1983	1079	70	CBSE
Smt. Pusibai Tejrj Surana Jain School, Park Town	2002	200	20	Matric
Vidhya Jyothi Trust Sri Jadavbai Nathmal Singhvee Jain Vidhyalaya Primary school, Triplicane	1984	423	24	Matric
Sri Jadavbai Nathmal Singhvee Jain Vidhyalaya Mat. HSS, Triplicane	1993	283	20	Matric
Sri Jadavbai Nathmal Singhvee Jain Vidhyalaya Primary & Toddlers' Wing	1999	579	33	Matric
Shree Mahaveer Jain Kalyan Sangh Guru Shree Shantivijai Jain College for Women, Vepery	1990	1500	64	M U
Guru Shree Shantivijai Jain Vidyalaya, Vepery	1966	1200	70	CBSE
Sri Marudhar Kesari Jain Trust Marudhar Kesari Jain College for Women, Vaniyambadi	1994	802	70	T U
Shri Bhagwan Mahaveer Dayaniketan Jain School, Vellore	1996	199	24	ICSE
Shree Chandrababhu Jain Educational Foundation Shree Chandrababhu Jain College, Minjur	1997	996	58	M U

NAME OF INSTITUTE	YEAR OF INCEPTION	STUDENT STRENGTH	STAFF STRENGTH	BOARD
Dhivubai Indermalji Charitable Trust Haran Dhivubai Indermalji Jain Matriculation HSS, Madurai	1989	550	78	Matric & State
Coimbatore Welfare Association Shri Nehru Vidyalaya	1964	1960	76	Matric
Shri Nehru Maha Vidyalaya	1989	1385	128	B U
Shree Jain Sikshan Sangh Shree Gouthamchand Kothari Jain Primary School, Royapuram	1960	120	9	State
Shree Gouthamchand Kothari Jain Hr. Sec. School, Royapuram	1974	350	26	State
Shree Goutham Jain Nursery & Primary School, Royapuram	1987	300	17	State
Sri Shanti Vijai Educational Trust Jain Schools Association Sri Shanthi Vijai girls' Hr. Sec. School, Udhagamandalam	1954	1887	40	State
Sri Shanthi Vijai Primary School, Udhagamandalam	1928	1007	25	State
Sri Shanthi Vijai Nursery & Primary School, Udhagamandalam	2002	288	5	State
Sri Shanti Vijai Girls' Hr. Sec. & Primary School, Coonoor	1964	1210	35	State
Sri Shanti Vijai High School, Masinagudi	1968	120	9	State
Gujarati Seva Samaj Educational Trust Sha Dargajiheeraji Jain Matriculation HSS, Madurai	1979	842	100	Matric
Shri Sayardevi Dhanmull Sowcar Educational & Charitable Trust Shri V. Dhanmull Sowcar Jain Hr. Sec. School, Tiruvannamalai	1981	3200	85	State

NAME OF INSTITUTE	YEAR OF INCEPTION	STUDENT STRENGTH	STAFF STRENGTH	BOARD
Saayarbai Educational & Charitable Trust Ganadhipathy Tulsī's Engineering College, Vellore	1999	700	76	AI/ A U
Shri Vardhaman Charitable Trust Shri Vardhaman Jain Matriculation School, Virinchipuram	1992	700	35	Matric

Note:

- M U - Madras University
 Matric - Matriculation
 NCVT - National Centre for Vocational Training
 AI/ A U - AICTE - Anna University
 CBSE - Central Board of Secondary Education
 T U - Tiruvalluvar University
 ICSE - Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations
 B U - Bharathiar University

APPENDIX B

- History of Jainism with special reference to Mathura
- V.K. Sharma
- Chozhar Aatchiyil Samana Samaya Valarchi
- A. Ekambaranathan
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गुणी जनों को देख हृदय में,
मेरे प्रेम उमड़ आवे।
बने जहाँ तक उनकी सेवा,
करके यह मन सुख पावे।
होऊँ नहीं कृतघ्न कभी मैं,
द्रोह न मेरे उर आवे।
गुण-ग्रहण का भाव रहे नित
दृष्टि न दोषों पर जावे ।

GUNI JANŌM KŌ DĒKH HRDAYA MĒN
MĒRĒ PRĒM UMADHĀVĒ,
BANĒ JAHĀN TAK UN KĒ SĒVĀ
KARKĒ YAH MANA SUKHA PĀVĒ,
HŌVŌŌM NAHĪN KRUTAGHNA KABHĪ MAIN,
DRŌHA NA MĒRĒ URA ĀVĒ,
GUNA-GRAHAN KĀ BHĀV RĀHE NIT
DRISHTI NA DŌSHŌM PAR JĀVĒ

Let my heart be filled with love towards the good and the virtuous and let me get maximum pleasure by serving them. Neither should I be ungrateful nor treacherous. Let my eyes see only the good in others and be blind to their weaknesses or faults.

From Meri Bhavna

JAIN PHILOSOPHY

Jainism is about concern for the human soul in its relationship with the universe, with other living beings and to the future state of humans in its eternity. One of the ethics of Jain philosophy with regard to moral life is, breaking attachment to the world. The moral ideal in Jainism has five vows namely ahimsa, meaning non-violence, satya or truthfulness, asteya or non-stealing, brahmacharya meaning chastity and aparigraha meaning non-attachment or non-possession. Jainism focuses its attention on aparigraha through self-control, penance, abstaining from over-indulgence and curtailing one's needs. Because, Jains believe that a desire for worldly possessions leads to greed, jealousy, selfishness, etc. Lord Mahaveer has said that wants and desires have no end. Attachment to materialistic objects ties a person to the cycle of birth and death. So one who quests for spiritual liberation should give up materialistic attachments. This philosophy has translated into giving those in need, when one earns more than one's basic requirements.



