

# JAIN TATTVA PARICHAY

## Chapter 1

### Introduction to Jain Tattva

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# True religion (Sanatam Dharma)

- The word Sanatan means ever existing.
- Dr. Shah has introduced Jain Religion by describing its various elements.

# Universe (Vishva) and Six Substances (Dravya)

- Universe is a collection of Six Substances:
  - Souls of all living beings)
  - Matter
  - Dharma (assists in motion)
  - Adharma (assists in stopping)
  - Space (Aakash), provides accommodation to all substances)
  - Time (Kal) (assists in continuously ongoing modifications, manifestations or changes).
- Each substance consists of three parts:
  - Substance itself (it is eternal and can never be destroyed) called DRAVYA
  - Attributes (these are the properties of the substance) called GUN
  - Manifestation or Modification, these are changes that occur every unit of time, and are called PARYAY. The lifespan of a PARYAY is one time unit

# Soul (Atma)

- Soul (Atma) and its attributes:
  - It is synonymous with Jeev or Atma
  - Soul is the living matter within me (my body).
  - I am the Soul. Because of my wrong belief, I call this body (which is a non-living object) as me.
- Soul's Attributes:
  - Has the power of Knowing & Cognising (conscience)
- Manifestations of Soul
  - Worldly (4 kinds)
    - Humans, Lower forms of life (Tiryanch, such as Animals, Insects, trees etc.), Heavenly (Dev) and those living in Hell (Narki)
  - Liberated (who have achieved Nirvana and became free from the cycle of birth and death)

# Three Jewels

- Jainism is a science of Substances.
- The objective is to know and experience our Soul:
  - The realization of one's own soul is called True/Rational Knowledge or Samyak Gyan
  - Firm belief of our soul is called True/Rational Belief or Samyak Darshan
  - This leads to equanimity and conduct that is called True/Rational Conduct or Samyak Charitra
- These are known as Three Jewels of Jainism:
  - Samyak Gyan
  - Samyak Darshan, and
  - Samyak Charitra
- The three main reasons for our not attaining Nirvana or Moksha are:
  - Wrong Knowledge ((Mithya Gyan)
  - Wrong Beliefs (Mithya Darshan)
  - Wrong Conduct (Mithya Charitra)
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# Manifestation (Paryay)

- Every substances goes through a continuous change:
  - The state changes every unit of time called Samaya

# Karmas

- These are particles of matter that get attached to our soul due to:
  - Our actions
  - Our thinking
- Jain religion has explained in great details the interaction of Karmic particles and soul such as:
  - Attachment of Karma particles
  - Types of Karma particles
  - Role in Soul's manifestations



# Jain concept of God

(Ishwar or Parmatma)

- The nature of True God is discussed in Chapter 2 of the book:
- In Jain philosophy, God does not reward or punish. But he provides guidance to achieve eternal happiness (Nirvana or Moksha), i.e. he teaches how one can achieve the same state that God himself has achieved.