

One Liner Shots (Jainism)

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One liner shots **JAINISM**

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Brief Information About Vardhaman Mahavira

- **Vardhaman Mahavira** was the **24th Tirthankara**.
- He was born in **Kundagrama, Vaishali** in 540 BC.
- His father was **Siddhartha**, who was the head of the **Jnatrikas** clan, and his mother was **Trishala**, who was a Lichchavi princess.
- Mahavira's wife was **Yashoda** and his daughter was **Priyadarshana**.
- At the age of **30**, Vardhamana left his home and became an ascetic.
- His period of asceticism was **12** years.
- At the age of **42**, he attained **Kaivalya** or 'Supreme Knowledge' by the bank of the Rijupalika River.
- He was later known as 'Mahavira' or 'Jina'. In Jainism, Jina refers to '**the conqueror**'.
- After attaining Kaivalya, Mahavira travelled from place to place for the next 30 years to preach in Magadha, Sravasti, Kosala and the east region.
- Mahavira died at **Pava** at the age of 72 in 468 BC.

Major Causes of the Rise of Jainism

- Rigidity of Hinduism and the orthodox mentality of the higher class in the society.
- Kshatriya's reaction regarding Brahman domination.
- Rigidification of the Varna system.
- Magadha's famine led to the spread of Jainism in South India too.
- Jainism was easier and more accessible to the common people as it was taught in Pali and Prakrit as compared to Sanskrit.
- People of all classes and castes could follow Jainism as there was no bar.

Key Teachings of Jainism

- ❖ All kinds of Vedic principles and rituals were rejected by Mahavira.
- ❖ He did not believe in the existence of God. According to him, the universe is a product of the natural phenomenon.
- ❖ Mahavira depicts the concept of **Karma** and the transmigration of the soul. As per Jainism, the body decays, but the soul does not.
- ❖ Jainism advocated **non-violence** and a life of austerity.
- ❖ As per Jainism, there are 2 elements in the world. These are Jiva and Atma.
- ❖ Mahavira adopted the religious doctrine of Chaturjam introduced by Parsvanatha. But he made some changes and additions to them. It is known as the 5 Doctrines of Jainism or Panchamahabrata. These are-

1. **Ahimsa (non-violence)**
2. **Satya (the truth)**
3. **Asteya (non-stealing)**
4. **Aparigraha (non-hoarding)**
5. **Brahmacharya (it was added by Mahavira)**

Tenets of Jainism or Tri-Ratna

No rituals are required to attain Nirvana or Moksha or Supreme Bliss. It can be easily achieved through three principles. It is called the three jewels or Triratna in Jainism. These are-

- **Right Belief (Samyaktarshan)**
- **Right Knowledge (Saymajnana)**
- **Correct Action (Samyakcharit)**

Jain Councils at A Glance

Jain Councils	Period	Place	President	Event
1st Council	3rd century BC	Pataliputra	Sthulabhadra	—
2nd Council	521 AD	Vallabhi	Kshamasramana	12 Angas were newly compiled.

Jain Literature

- **Kalpasurta** by Bhadrabahu
- 12 Angas
- Jain Agams
- **Parishistaparvana** by Hemchandra

Some Facts about Jainism

- ★ Jainism is one of the oldest Indian religions. According to some traditions, it is believed that Jainism is as ancient as the Vedic religion.
- ★ Jainism is an ancient Indian religion that believes in **self-help**. This particular religion does not believe in gods or spiritual beings that help people.
- ★ Jainism has a succession of more great teachers or **Tirthankaras**, and there was a total of **24** Tirthankaras.
- ★ The first Tirthankara was **Rishabhanath or Rishabhadeva**
- ★ The 24th or the last Tirthankar was **Vardhaman Mahavira**.
- ★ **Parsvanath** was the 23rd Tirthankara. He lived in Benaras.
- ★ All the **24** Tirthankaras were Kshatriyas.
- ★ Jainism is divided into **2** main sects. Namely: **Shwetambara** and **Digambara**.
- ★ Shwetambara Jains wear white clothes. Sthulbhadra led this sect.