

1.11 Introduction of the protective Gods and Goddess of Jain religion.

Jain religion is a regime of Jain Tirthankaras, who are above any affection or hatred – *Vitrag*. One who is interested in attaining *Moksha*- liberation from birth and rebirth and for that purpose one who follows the path of Truth is a follower of Jainism. The Jain order is taken care of by the *Gitarth* (Truly learned about right Knowledge) *Acharyas* like wise, the right visioned Gods and Goddess also discharge the responsibilities of protection and development of the Religion of *Lord Mahavir*.

In the present era of these twenty four *Tirthankaras*, there have been Gods and Goddess of *Tirthankaras*, 16 *Vidhyadevis* (Goddess) and also well known Gods like *Shri Manibhadravir*, *Shri Ghantakaranvir*, and well known goddess like *Shri Chakeshvari Devi*, *Shri Padmavati Devi*, etc. are all known there days. In past lives they were most devoted followers souls of Lord *Tirthankaras*. They are still same devoted followers. Even as on to-day. They are equally devoted to Lord *Tirthankaras* of Jainism, and they are always in service of lord *Tirthankaras* and they always extend help security to the followers of Lord *Tirthankaras*, who have deep faith and exclusive devotion to them. They are providing help, assistance, guidance or signals for self interest and self help of devotees of Gods.

These Gods and Goddesses are souls of very high quality. They have Right vision. They are sure to attain *Moksha* – liberation in near future and they are sure to become *Siddhas*. They are as good as our fellow religion followers. They always provide guidance and help for good of us. Nevertheless, there are Gods, but not Lord Tirthankaras at Par. No doubt, we have to offer our respect through their devotion *Pooja*, *Aarti*, mediation etc.to please them, but one must use one's discretion. Remember, they are not Lord *Tirthankaras*.

When we offer their *Pooja*, it is to be performed only on their forehead with our Thumb, by saffron. They are not to be affect the *Asht-Prakari Pooja*. (Eight demised *Pooja*.) *Pooja* or *Pooja* on nine limbs of their body. No only on forehead.

Of course, we can offer them prayers, devotion etc. for true understanding of religion, for getting strength to offer all kinds of devotion without any trouble/difficulties, for getting strength for doing great works, for lessening the *Karmas*, for combating obstacles, for peace of mind etc.

The 24 Lord Tirthankaras have 24 *Yaksha*, 24 *Yaksini*, 16 *Vidhyadevis*, Nine Planets, 10 *Digpals* in charge of 10 Directions, *Kshetrapal*, (Gods of Particular regions), Shri Manibhadravir, Shri Ghantakaranvir etc. Gods and Goddesses are with right vision. All Gods/ Goddess have distinct Features, Shapes, Sign etc.

Yaksha of Present Lord Tirthankaras

No.	Yaksha	Colour	Vehicle	Eyes	Mouth	Hands	Right hand	Left hand
1	<i>Gaumukh</i>	Golden	Elephant	2	1	4	<i>Varad, Mala</i>	<i>Bijoru, Pash,</i>
2	<i>Mahayaksha</i>	Black	Elephant	2	4	8	<i>Varad, Mudgar, Mala, Pash</i>	<i>Bijoru, Abhay, Ankush, Asti</i>
3.	<i>Trimukh</i>	Black	Peacock	3	3	6	<i>Nakul, Gada, Abhay,</i>	<i>Bijoru, Nag, Mala.</i>
4.	<i>Ishwar</i>	Black	Elephant	2	1	4	<i>Bijoru, Mala,</i>	<i>Nakul, Ankush,</i>
5.	<i>Tumbru</i>	White	Elephant	2	1	4	<i>Varad, Sakti</i>	<i>Gada, Nagpash</i>
6.	<i>Kusum</i>	Blue	Deer	2	1	4	<i>Bijoru, Abhay</i>	<i>Nakul, Mala.</i>
7.	<i>Matang</i>	Blue	Elephant	2	1	4	<i>Bilv, pash</i>	<i>Nakul, Ankush.</i>
8.	<i>Vijay</i>	Blue	Swan	3	1	2	<i>Wheel</i>	<i>Mudgar</i>
9.	<i>Vjit</i>	White	Tortoise	2	1	4	<i>Bijoru, Mala.</i>	<i>Nakul, Ankush</i>
10.	<i>Bhrahm</i>	White	Lotus	3	4	8	<i>Bijoru, Mudgar,</i>	<i>Nakul, Gada,</i>

							<i>Pash,</i> <i>Abhay</i>	<i>Ankush,</i> <i>Mala.</i>
11.	<i>Manuj</i>	White	Ox	3	1	4	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Gada</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Mala</i>
12.	<i>Sukumar</i>	White	Swan	2	1	4	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Ban</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Dhanush</i>
13.	<i>Shatdukh</i> (6 faced)	White	Peacock	2	6	12	<i>Fruit,</i> <i>Wheel,</i> <i>Ban,</i> <i>Khadag,</i> <i>Mala,</i> <i>Pash</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Wheel,</i> <i>Dhanush,</i> <i>Ankush,</i> <i>Dhal,</i> <i>Abhay</i>
14.	<i>Patal</i>	Dark Red	Crocodile	2	3	6	<i>Lotus,</i> <i>Khadg,</i> <i>Pash,</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Mala,</i> <i>Dhal</i>
15.	<i>Kinnar</i>	Dark Red	Tortoise	2	3	6	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Gada,</i> <i>Abhay</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Lotus,</i> <i>Mala</i>
16.	<i>Garud</i>	Black	Pig	2	Like Pig	4	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Lotus</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Mala</i>
17.	<i>Gandharva</i>	Black	Swan	2	1	4	<i>Varad,</i> <i>Pash</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Ankush</i>
18.	<i>Yakshendra</i>	Black	<i>Shankh</i>	3	6	12	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Ban,</i> <i>Khadag,</i> <i>Pash,</i> <i>Mudgar,</i> <i>Abhay</i>	<i>Nakul,</i> <i>Dhanush,</i> <i>Dhal,</i> <i>Mala,</i> <i>Ankush,</i> <i>Shuli</i>
19.	<i>Kuber</i>	Like Rainbo w	Elephant	2	4	8	<i>Varad,</i> <i>Parshu,</i> <i>Shuli,</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Shakti,</i> <i>Mudgar,</i>

							<i>Abhay</i>	<i>Mala.</i>
20.	<i>Varun</i>	White	Ox	3	4	8	<i>Bijoru, Gada, Ban, Shakti</i>	<i>Nakul, Lotus, Dhanush, Parshu</i>
21.	<i>Bhrukuti</i>	Golden	Ox	3	4	8	<i>Bijoru, Mudgar, Abhay, Shakti</i>	<i>Nakul, Vajra, Mala, Parshu</i>
22.	<i>Gomedh</i>	Black	Human	2	3	6	<i>Bijoru, Parshu, Wheel,</i>	<i>Nakul, Shuli, Shakti</i>
23.	<i>Vaman</i>	Black	Tortoise	2	Like elephant	4	<i>Bijoru, Snake</i>	<i>Nakul, Snake</i>
24.	<i>Matang</i>	Black	Elephant	2	1	2	<i>Nolio,</i>	<i>Bijoru.</i>

Yakshinis of Present Lord Tirthankaras

Sr. No.	<i>Yakshini</i>	Colour	Vehicle	Hands	Right hand	Left hand
1.	<i>Chakeshwari</i>	Golden	Eagle	8	<i>Varad, Ban, Wheel, Pash</i>	<i>Dhanush, Vajra, Wheel, Ankush.</i>
2.	<i>Ajita</i>	White	Cow	4	<i>Varad, Pash</i>	<i>Bijoru, Ankush</i>
3.	<i>Duritari</i>	White	Sheep	4	<i>Varad, Mala</i>	<i>Fruit, Abhay</i>
4.	<i>Kali</i>	Black	Lotus	4	<i>Varad,</i>	<i>Nag,</i>

					<i>Pash</i>	<i>Ankush</i>
5.	<i>Mahakali</i>	Golden	Lotus	4	<i>Varad, Pash</i>	<i>Bijoru, Ankush</i>
6.	<i>Achyuta</i>	Black	Human	4	<i>Varad, Ban</i>	<i>Dhanush, Abhay</i>
7.	<i>Shanta</i>	Golden	Elephant	4	<i>Varad, Mala</i>	<i>Shuli, Abhay</i>
8.	<i>Jvala</i>	Yellow	Swan	4	<i>Khadag, Mudgar</i>	<i>Dhal, Parshu</i>
9.	<i>Sutara</i>	White	Ox	4	<i>Varad, Mala</i>	<i>Kalash, Ankush</i>
10.	<i>Ashoka</i>	Blue	Lotus	4	<i>Varad, Pash,</i>	<i>Bijoru, Ankush</i>
11.	<i>Vatsa</i>	White	Lion	4	<i>Varad, Mudgar</i>	<i>Kalash, Ankush</i>
12.	<i>Pravara (Chandra)</i>	Black	Horse	4	<i>Varad, Shakti,</i>	<i>Punya, Gada</i>
13.	<i>Vijaya</i>	Blue	Lotus	4	<i>Ban, Pash</i>	<i>Dhanush, Nag</i>
14.	<i>Ankusha</i>	White	Lotus	4	<i>Khadag, Pash,</i>	<i>Dhal, Ankush</i>
15.	<i>Pannga</i>	White	Fish	4	<i>Lotus, Ankush</i>	<i>Lotus, Abhay.</i>
16.	<i>Nirvani</i>	White	Lotus	4	<i>Lotus, Book</i>	<i>Kamandal, Lotus</i>
17.	<i>Achyuta</i>	White	Peacock	4	<i>Bijoru, Shuli</i>	<i>Astick with sharp Lotus</i>
18.	<i>Dharini</i>	Black	Lotus	4	<i>Bijoru, Lotus</i>	<i>Mala, Pash</i>
19.	<i>Vairotya</i>	Black	Lotus	4	<i>Varad,</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i>

					<i>Mala</i>	<i>Shakti</i>
20.	<i>Achchhupta</i>	Yellow	<i>Bhadrashan</i>	4	<i>Varad,</i> <i>Mala,</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Shuli</i>
21.	<i>Gandhari</i>	White	Swan	4	<i>Varad,</i> <i>Khadag</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Bhalo</i>
22.	<i>Ambika</i>	Golden	Lion	4	<i>Amrlumbi,</i> <i>Pash</i>	<i>Son,</i> <i>Ankush</i>
23.	<i>Padmavati</i>	Golden	<i>Corcsarpa</i>	4	<i>Lorus,</i> <i>Pash</i>	<i>Fruit,</i> <i>Ankush</i>
24.	<i>Siddhayika</i>	Blue	<i>Lion</i>	4	<i>Book,</i> <i>Abhay</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Vina</i>

Shri 16 Vidhyadevis

The form of sixteen Vidhyadevis have been provided in Stuti-Chatul Vinshatika by Shri Bappabhattachasuri, in Nirvan Kalika of Shri Padhiptacharya and in Acharya Dinkar of Suri Vardhmansuri. The discription below is based on these. In the sculptures of Vidhyadevis, there have been some deviation in the number of hands. These have been some deviation in their weapons also.

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Vidhyadevis</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Han d</i>	<i>Right hand</i>	<i>Left hand</i>	<i>Mantra</i>
1.	<i>Rohini</i>	White	Cow	4	<i>Japmala,</i> <i>Ban</i>	<i>Shankh,</i> <i>Dhanush</i>	<i>Om, Yam Rohini um namah</i>
2.	<i>Pragnapti</i>	White	Peacock	4	<i>Shakti,</i> <i>Varad</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Shakti</i>	<i>Om, Ram Pgnapayai namah</i>
3.	<i>Vajrshudkhala</i>	White	Lotus	4	<i>Varad,</i> <i>Shrunkhla</i>	<i>Lotus,</i> <i>Shrunkhla</i>	<i>Om la Vajrashrunkhlayai im namah</i>
4.	<i>Vajrankushi</i>	Golden	Elephant	4	<i>Varad,</i> <i>Vajra</i>	<i>Bijoru,</i> <i>Ankush</i>	<i>Om vam Vajrasushyai im</i>

							<i>namah</i>
5.	<i>Apratichakra</i>	Like lightening	Eagle	4	<i>Wheel, Wheel.</i>	<i>Wheel, Wheel</i>	<i>Om Apratichakrayai um namah</i>
6.	<i>Purushdatta</i>	Golden	Buffalo	4	<i>Varad, Khadag,</i>	<i>Bijuro, Dhal</i>	<i>Om sham purushdattayai um namah</i>
7.	<i>Kali</i>	Black	Lotus	4	<i>Japmala, Gada</i>	<i>Vajra, Abhaya</i>	<i>Om sam kalai rum namah</i>
8.	<i>Mahakali</i>	Very Black	Human	4	<i>Akshsutra, Vajra</i>	<i>Vajra, Abhaya</i>	<i>Om ham mahakalyai rum namah</i>
9.	<i>Gauri</i>	<i>Gauranak (White gold)</i>	An ox (<i>Godha</i>)	4	<i>Varad, Mushalmala,</i>	<i>Japmala, Lotus</i>	<i>Om yum gauyeryam lum namah</i>
10.	<i>Gandhari</i>	Blue	Lotus	4	<i>Varad, Mushalmala</i>	<i>Abhay, vajra</i>	<i>Om rum gandharyai lum namah</i>
11.	<i>Srvastramahajvala</i>	White	<i>Varah</i>	4	-	-	<i>Om lum sarvastramahajvalayai em namah</i>
12.	<i>Manvi</i>	Black	Lotus	4	<i>Varad, Pash</i>	<i>Japmala, Tree</i>	<i>Om vum manvai em namh</i>
13.	<i>Vairotya</i>	Black	Snake (<i>Ajgar</i>)	4	<i>Khadag, sarpa</i>	<i>Dhal, Sarpa</i>	<i>Om shum vaityayai om namah</i>
14.	<i>Achchupta</i>	Electric	Horse	4	<i>Khadag, Ban</i>	<i>Dhal, Dhanush</i>	<i>Om shum achchhptayai om namah</i>
15.	<i>Manshi</i>	White	Swan	4	<i>Varad, Vajra</i>	<i>Japmala, Vajra</i>	<i>Om sum mansyai am namah</i>
16.	<i>Mahamanshi</i>	White	Swan	4	<i>Varad, khadag</i>	<i>Kundika, Dhal</i>	<i>Om hum Mahamanasyai am namah</i>