

Jainism Questions

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Question 1:

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With reference to religious history of India, the book, 'Uttaradhyayana Sutra' belongs to

1. Buddhism
2. Jainism
3. Ajivikas
4. Charvakas
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Jainism

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Jainism Question 1 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Jainism**.

Key Points

- The **Uttaradhyayana Sutra** is one of the most important sacred books of the **Shvetambar Jains**, who venerate its antiquity and authority. **Hence option 2 is the correct answer**
- From the style of its illustrations, this manuscript copy is **dated to the early 16th century**.
- The main text is written in **Ardhamagadhi Prakrit script** accompanied by a **Sanskrit commentary** in smaller 'Nagari characters.
- The Uttaradhyayana Sutra, **one of the four 'Mulasutras' of the Jain canon**, is a work in 36 chapters, each a sermon on aspects of Jain doctrine and discipline.
- **It is believed by orthodox Jains to contain the actual words of Mahavira.**
- The text is interspersed with lively narratives from folk literature, to keep the reader's attention, and it is by these stories that the 37 miniatures are inspired.
- Illustrated manuscripts of the Uttaradhyayana Sutra are rare, especially outside India.

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Question 2:

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Mahavir Jayanti is an important festival of which religion in India?

1. Hinduism

2. Jainism

3. Buddhism

4. Zoroastrianism

5. Islam

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Jainism

Jainism Question 2 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Jainism**.

Key Points

- **Mahavir Jayanti** is celebrated by the **Jain community** commemorating the birth of **Lord Mahavira**, the founder of **Jainism**.
- Mahavira is the **24th and the last Tirthankara**, who preached the essence of life, virtue, and non-violence towards all living beings.
- According to the **Swetambaras**, he was born in **599 BC** but the Digambar school of Jainism believes that Mahavira was born in **615 BC**.

Additional Information

- Lord Mahavir, also referred to as Indian sage **Vardhamana** was born in **Kundalagrama, Bihar**, as a son to king **Siddartha** and Queen **Trishala**.
- At the age of 30, he renounced his **throne** and **other worldly possessions** and spent **twelve years** of his life as an **ascetic**.
- At the age of 72, he attained **nirvana** and devoted the rest of his life to preach **spiritual freedom**.

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Question 3:

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Which of the Tirthankara did not attain Kaivalya in Uttar Pradesh?

1. Parshvanath
2. Chandraprabha
3. Sambhavanath
4. Mahavira
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 4 : Mahavira

Jainism Question 3 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Mahavira**.

Key Points

- The **one** who **understood** the **true nature of the self** and attained **Kaivalya (Omniscience)** is a **Tirthankara**.
- **Vardhaman Mahavira** was born in **Kundagrama** near **Vaishali** present in **Bihar**.
- Born to father **Siddhartha** and mother **Trishala** in a **Kshatriya Clan**.
- At the age of **42**, he attained **Kaivalya (Omniscience)** on the banks of river **Rijupalika** outside the town of **Jrimbhikagrama in Bihar state**.
- **Jainism** was **founded** by the first Tirthankara **Rishabhdeva**.
- **Jainism** had **24 Tirthankaras** who were their **Teacher or Spiritual Gurus**.
- **Vardhaman Mahavira** was the **last** and **24th Tirthankara** of Jains.

Additional Information

- Jainism is much **older** than Buddhism.
- Although Jainism was **older** than Buddhism it **emerged** in the **6th Century** under Mahavira.
- Jainism had spread before the arrival of **Mahavira** in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- The **23rd** Tirthankara Parshvanath was believed to have been **born** in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.
- Very little is **known** about other **Jain Tirthankaras** except for the **last two Tirthankara**.
- **Tirthankaras** are distinguished by **symbolic colours** or **Emblems**.

Parshvanath	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 23rd Jain Tirthankara• Symbolic colour: Green• Emblem: Snake
Chandraprabha	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8th Jain Tirthankara• Symbolic colour: White• Emblem: Moon
Sambhavanath	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3rd Jain Tirthankara• Symbolic colour: Golden• Emblem: Horse

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Question 4:

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Who among the following was not an Acharya in The Nalanda Vishvavidyalaya?

1. Kautilya

2. Nagarjuna

3. Sheelbhadrā

4. More than one of the above

5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 1 : Kautilya

Jainism Question 4 Detailed Solution

The Correct answer is Option 1.

Key Points

- **Kautilya (Chanakya)** is associated with Takshashila, centuries before Nalanda's rise (Nalanda flourishes from 5th c. CE). **Hence, not an Acharya of Nalanda.**
- **Nagarjuna**: Revered Mahayana philosopher; traditional accounts link him with the Nalanda milieu/lineage in eastern India.
- **Sheelbhadra (Śīlabhadra)**: Eminent Abbott (Ācārya) of Nalanda in the 7th century; Xuanzang studied Yogācāra under him.
- **Shantarakshit (Śāntarakṣita)**: Renowned Nalanda scholar who later carried Buddhism to Tibet in the 8th century.

Additional Information

- **Founding & Patronage**: Nalanda monastery-university grew under Gupta rulers (often linked to Kumaragupta I) and later Harsha and Pāla kings.
- **Scale**: At its height—~10,000 students, ~1,500 teachers; vast libraries like Dharmaganja.
- **Curriculum**: Buddhist philosophy (Madhyamaka, Yogācāra), logic (hetu-vidyā), grammar, medicine, astronomy.
- **Key Visitors**: Faxian (earlier), Xuanzang (7th c.), Yijing (7th c.) documented Nalanda's rigor.
- **Decline**: Major destruction during Bakhtiyar Khalji's invasion (c. 1193 CE).

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Question 5:

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Where did Lord Mahavira attain salvation?

1. Sonagiri

2. Pavapuri

3. Shravanabelagola

4. More than one of the above

5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Pavapuri

Jainism Question 5 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Pavapuri**.

Key Points

- The salvation place of Mahavir Ji, the originator of the Jain religion is Pavapuri.
- Pavapuri is located in the Nalanda district of Bihar.
- Pavapuri is a sacred place in Jainism as it was a cremation area of Mahavir Ji.
- The **Jal Mandir** meaning **Water Temple**, also known as Apapuri, in Pawapuri, meaning a town without sins, in the Indian state of Bihar.
 - It is a highly revered temple dedicated to **Lord Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara**.

Additional Information

- Jainism came into prominence in the **6th century B.C.**, when Lord Mahavira propagated the religion.
- There were **24 great teachers**, the last of whom was Lord Mahavira.

- These twenty-four teachers were called Tirthankaras-people who had attained all knowledge (Moksha) while living and preached it to the people.
- **The first Tirthankara was Rishabhnatha.**
- The word 'Jain' is derived from Jina or Jaina which means the 'Conqueror'.

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Question 6

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Who among the following was the third Jain Tirthankara?

1. Rishabhanatha
2. Ajitnath
3. Sambhavnath
4. Sumatinath

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Sambhavnath

Jainism Question 6 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Sambhavnath**.

- **Sambhavnath** was the third Jain Tirthankara.

Key Points

- Tirthankar:

- A Tirthankar is referred to as 'teaching god' or 'Ford Maker' in Jainism.
- In Jainism, it is believed that each cosmic age produces 24 Tirthankaras.
- The Tirthankaras in the art are shown in the Kayotsarga pose (dismissing the body).
- The 24 Tirthankaras are distinguished from each other by the symbolic colours or emblems.

Additional Information

- **Rishabhanatha was the first Jain Tirthankara.**
- Ajitnath was the second Jain Tirthankara.
- Sumatinath was the fifth Jain Tirthankara.
- Abhinandanana was the fourth Jain Tirthankara.
- Parshwanath was the 23rd Jain Tirthankara.
- **Mahavira was the 24th Jain Tirthankara.**

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Question 7

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The first Jain assembly was organized at -

1. Patliputra
2. Vaishali
3. Rajgrih
4. Vallavi

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 1 : Patliputra

Jainism Question 7 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Patliputra**.

- The First Jain assembly was held in 300 BC at Patliputra (present Patna).

Key Points

- This meeting took place during the reign of **Chandragupta Maurya**.
- This meeting took place under the chairmanship of **Sthoolabhadra**.
- In this part of the body of Jainism, 12 parts were edited.
- In the first Jain assembly, the Jain religion was divided into two parts **Digambar and Shvetambar**.

Tirthankar:

- A Tirthankar is referred to as 'teaching god' or 'Ford Maker' in Jainism.
- In Jainism, it is believed that each cosmic age produces 24 Tirthankaras.
- The Tirthankaras in the art are shown in the Kayotsarga pose (dismissing the body).
- The 24 Tirthankaras are distinguished from each other by the symbolic colours or emblems.



Additional Information

- **Rishabhanatha was the first Jain Tirthankara.**
- Ajitnath was the second Jain Tirthankara.
- Sumatinath was the fifth Jain Tirthankara.
- Abhinandanana was the fourth Jain Tirthankara.
- Parshwanath was the 23rd Jain Tirthankara.
- **Mahavira was the 24th Jain Tirthankara.**

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Question 8

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Name the holy city recognized as the birthplace of the first and fourth Jain Tirthankaras.

1. Gaya

2. Varanasi

3. Ayodhya

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Ayodhya

Jainism Question 8 Detailed SolutionThe correct answer is **Ayodhya**.**Key-Points**

- The **birthplace** of the **first and fourth Jain Tirathkaras** is **Ayodhya**.
- Tirthankara's are the **savior and spiritual teachers** of the Jain dharma.
- According to Jain scripture, a **Tirthankara** is a **rare individual** who has **conquered the samsara, the cycle of death and rebirth, on their own and made a path for others to follow**.
- The **First Tirathkaras** of Jainism was Lord Rishabha. **Birthplace**- Ayodhya
- The **second Tirathkara** was Ajitanath. **Birthplace**- Ayodhya
- The **third Tirathkara** was Sambhavanatha. **Birthplace**- Sravasti
- The **fourth Tirathkaras** of Jainism was Abhinandananaatha. **Birthplace**- Ayodhya

**Additional Information****Jainism**

- **Jainism** was founded by **Aadinath and Rishabha Dev**, while the **real founder was Mahavir swami**.
- The **important principles of Jainism** are:- **Ahimsa, Satya (truth), Asteya (not to steal), Aparigraha, and Brahmacharya**.
- The place where Jain visits to worship are called **Jain Temple or Derasar**.
- **Jainism** is divided into **two sections as Svetambara and Digambara**.

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Question 9

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What is considered the most important fundamental principle of Jainism?

1. Karma

2. Non-violence

3. Dispassion (Virag)

4. Loyalty

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Non-violence

Jainism Question 9 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Non-violence**.

Key Points

- **Jainism**

- Jainism, traditionally known as **Jain Dharma**, is an ancient Indian religion.
- It is one of the oldest Indian religions.
- The **three main pillars of Jainism** are ahimsa (non-violence), anekāntavāda (non-absolutism), and aparigraha (non-attachment).

Additional Information

Some most important fundamental principle of Jainism are:

- **Five principles of Jainism are**

- Non-Violence (Ahimsa)
- No lies (Satya)
- No stealing (Asteya)
- No Property (Aparigraha)

- Observing Continence (Brahmacharya).
- **The fifth principle (Brahmacharya) was added by Mahavira** and the other four were the teachings of his Predecessors.
- Mahavira was the 24th Tirthankara of Jain.

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Question 10

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Which of the following is the symbol of Jain Tirthankara Parshvanatha?

1. Bull
2. Lotus
3. Snake
4. Lion

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Snake

Jainism Question 10 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Snake**.

Key Points

- Jainism originated in the **7th–5th century BCE** in the Ganges basin of eastern India.
- There were 24 Tirthankaras the last of which was Vardhaman Mahavira.
- The founder of Jainism was **Rishabhadeva**, also known as **Adinatha**.
- The first Tirthankar was **Rishabhanatha** and the twenty-fourth Tirthankar was **Mahavira**.
- The five **vows** of Jainism are:
 - **Ahimsa (Non-violence)**

- **Satya** (truth)
- **Achaurya or Asteya** (non-stealing)
- **Brahmacharya** (Celibacy)
- **Aparigraha** (Non-attachment to temporal possessions)

★ **Important Points**

Given below are all the Jain Tirthankaras with their symbols:

Number	Name	Symbol
1	Rishabhanatha (Adinatha)	Bull
2	Ajitanatha	Elephant
3	Sambhavanatha	Horse
4	Abhinandananaatha	Monkey
5	Sumatinatha	Heron
6	Padmaprabha	Padma
7	Suparshvanatha	Swastika
8	Chandraprabha	Crescent Moon
9	Pushpadanta	Crocodile
10	Shitalanatha	Shrivatsa
11	Shreyasanathantha	Rhinoceros
12	Vasupujya	Buffalo
13	Vimalanatha	Boar

14	Anantanatha	Falcon
15	Dharmanatha	Vajra
16	Shantinatha	Antelope or deer
17	Kunthunatha	Goat
18	Aranatha	Nandyavarta or fish
19	Mallinatha	Kalasha Mithila
20	Munisuvrata	Tortoise
21	Naminatha	Blue lotus
22	Neminatha/ Arishtanemi	Shankha
23	Parshvanatha	Snake
24	Mahavira	Lion

*Important is marked **Bold**

Additional Information

- Lord Mahavira was the last and the **24th Tirthankara of the Jain religion**.
- Mahavira's mother's name was **Trishala**.
- Mahavira's father's name was **Siddhartha** who was the **head of Gyatrik Kshatriya**.
- Mahavira's symbol was **Lion**.
- Mahavira attained Nirvana in **Pavapuri located near Rajgriha**.
- He is depicted in a standing or sitting meditative posture, with a lion symbol beneath him.
- Vaishali** is the birthplace of Mahavira Swami.

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**Question 11**[View this Question Online >](#)

Where did Lord Mahavira attain salvation?

1. Sonagiri
2. Pavapuri
3. Shravanabelagola
4. Mount Abu

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Pavapuri

Jainism Question 11 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Pavapuri**.

Key Points

- The salvation place of Mahavir Ji, the originator of the Jain religion is Pavapuri.
- Pavapuri is located in the Nalanda district of **Bihar**.
- Pavapuri is a sacred place in Jainism as it was a cremation area of Mahavir Ji.
- The **Jal Mandir** meaning **Water Temple**, also known as Apapuri, in Pawapuri, meaning a town without sins, in the Indian state of Bihar.
 - It is a highly revered temple dedicated to **Lord Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara**.

Additional Information

- Jainism came into prominence in the **6th century B.C.**, when Lord Mahavira propagated the religion.
- There were **24 great teachers**, the last of whom was Lord Mahavira.
 - These twenty-four teachers were called Tirthankaras-people who had attained all knowledge (Moksha) while living and preached it to the people.
 - **The first Tirthankara was Rishabhdeva.**
- The word '**Jain**' is derived from Jina or Jaina which means the '**Conqueror**'.

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Question 12

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Who was the 23rd Tirthankara of Jainism?

1. Rishabhanatha
2. Parshwanath
3. Ajitanatha
4. Mahavira

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Parshwanath

Jainism Question 12 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Parsvanatha**.

Key Points

- In Jainism, **Tirthankara** is a savior who has succeeded in crossing over life's stream of rebirths and has made a path for others to follow.
- There are **24 Tirthankaras** in Jainism.
- Parshwanatha was a Prince of Banaras. His 4 main teachings were -
 1. Ahimsa (non - injury)
 2. Satya (non - lying)
 3. Asteya (non - stealing)
 4. Aparigraha (non - possession)
- **Mahavira** was the last Tirthankara.

Important Tirthankaras

Name	Symbol
Rishabhadeva	Bull
Ajitnath	Elephant
Sambharnath	Horse
Abhiaandam	Monkey
Sumatinath	Curlew
Padmaprabhu	Red Lotus
Suparswanath	Swastik
Chandraji Prabhu	Moon
Suvidinath	Crocodile
Shitalnath	Srivatsa
Shregnath	Rhinoceros
Vasupujya	Buffalo
Vimalnath	Boar
Anantnath	Falcon
Dharmanath	Vajra
Shantinath	Deer
Kuntunath	He- Goat
Arnath	Fish
Mallinath	Waterpot
Muniswasth	Tortoise
Naminath	Blue Lotus
Arishtanemi	Conch shell
Parshwanath	Serpent
Mahavira	Lion

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In Jainism, three Ratnas (Triratnas) are given and they are called the way to Nirvana. What are they?

1. Right Speech, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct.

2. Right Faith, Right Knowledge and Right Process.

3. Right Faith, Right Path and Right Conduct.

4. Right Faith, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct.

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 4 : Right Faith, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct.

Jainism Question 13 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Right Faith, Right Knowledge, and Right Conduct**.

Key Points

- Tri-Ratnas are also called **Threefold Refuge or Ratnatraya** which are originally **Samyak Darshana(right faith), Samyak Gyana(right knowledge), and Samyak Charitra(right conduct)**.
- According to the Jain Philosophy, the **Threefold Jewels or the Tri-Ratnas** are the ways to achieve the purification of soul and liberation because only the liberated pure soul (Siddha) goes up to the summit of the universe (Siddhashila) and dwells there in eternal bliss.
- As per the religious texts of Jainism, the right faith, right knowledge, and right conduct together constitute the direct path to liberation which means the **perfect release from all karmas**.
- The **Kalpa Sutra** is the Jain text containing the biographies of the Jain Tirthankaras, most notably **Parshvanath and Mahavira**.
- **Kalpa Sutra** was written by **Bhadrabahu** who was in the court of **Chandragupta Maurya**.

Important Points

- The **first Tirthankara** of Jainism was **Rishabhdev** and he is also known as Rishabhanatha and Adinatha.
- **Lord Mahavira** was the **24th Tirthankara** of Jainism and regarded as the true founder of Jainism.
- **Parshvanath** was the **23rd Tirthankara of Jainism**.

Additional Information

- Three Jewels (Triratnas) of Buddhism are:
 - Buddha
 - Dhamma
 - Sangha

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Question 14

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With respect to Jainism, which of the following words refers to "Achaurya"?

1. Truth
2. Homeless
3. Asteya
4. Celibacy

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Asteya

Jainism Question 14 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Asteya**.

Key Points

- Jainism which is also known as Jain Dharma is an ancient Indian Religion.
 - They trace their history to their twenty-four saviours known as Tirthankars.
 - The first Tirthankar was Rishabhanatha and the twenty-fourth Tirthankar was Mahavira.
-
- **Jain literature** is contained in the **Agam** in which a number of Jain texts are there in the Ardh-Maghi Prakrit language.
 - The **five vows of Jainism** are:
 1. Ahimsa (Non-violence)
 2. Satya (truth)
 3. **Achaurya or Asteya (non-stealing):** Not to steal which does not belong to oneself is called **Achauryanuvrata**. One is true to his belonging and does not take anything by mistake or intentionally.
 4. Brahmacharya (Celibacy)
 5. Aparigraha (Non-attachment to temporal possessions)

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Question 15

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The first Tirthankar of Jain religion was

1. Mahavir

2. Parshwanath

3. Rishabhdev

4. Neminath

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Rishabhdev

Jainism Question 15 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Rishabhdev**.

- **The first Tirthankara was Rishabhdev or Rishabhadev.**
 - He was considered the founder of Jainism.

Key Points

- According to **Jain texts**, there is a tradition of **24 Tirthankars**.
- **Mahavir Swami** was the **24th Tirthankar**.
- He is considered the **real founder of Jainism**.
- **Parshvanath (Parasnath)** was the **23rd Tirthankara of Jainism**.
- The discussion of **Rishabhdev and Arishtanemi (22nd Tirthankara)** is found in **Rigveda**.
- The apex **ascetics of Jainism** were revered as '**Tirthankars**'.

Additional Information

- **Ajitnath** was the **second** Jain Tirthankara.
- **Parshwanath** was the **23rd** Jain Tirthankara.
- Neminath was the **22nd** Jain Tirthankara.