



Vice-President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan Addresses the Eighth 180 Upvas Parna Ceremony of Acharya Hansratna Surishwarji Maharaj in New Delhi

**Vice-President Highlights Jainism's Contribution to Peace,
and Global recognition**

**VP highlights Historic Jain Influence on Tamil Literature
and Culture**

**Returning to Roots: VP Emphasizes Preservation of Indian
Values, Family, and Culture**

**Vice President praises Government Efforts to Preserve
Indian Heritage**

**Gyan Bharatham Mission and Classical Language
Recognition for Prakrit Strengthen India's Cultural Heritage**

Posted On: 08 NOV 2025 2:04PM by PIB Delhi

The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, graced the Eighth 180 Upvas Parna Ceremony of Jain Acharya Shri Hansratna Surishwarji Maharaj Ji at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, today.

Addressing the gathering, the Vice-President expressed his deep honour in participating in the sacred Mahaparna of Divyatapasvi Acharya Hansratna Surishwarji Maharaj.

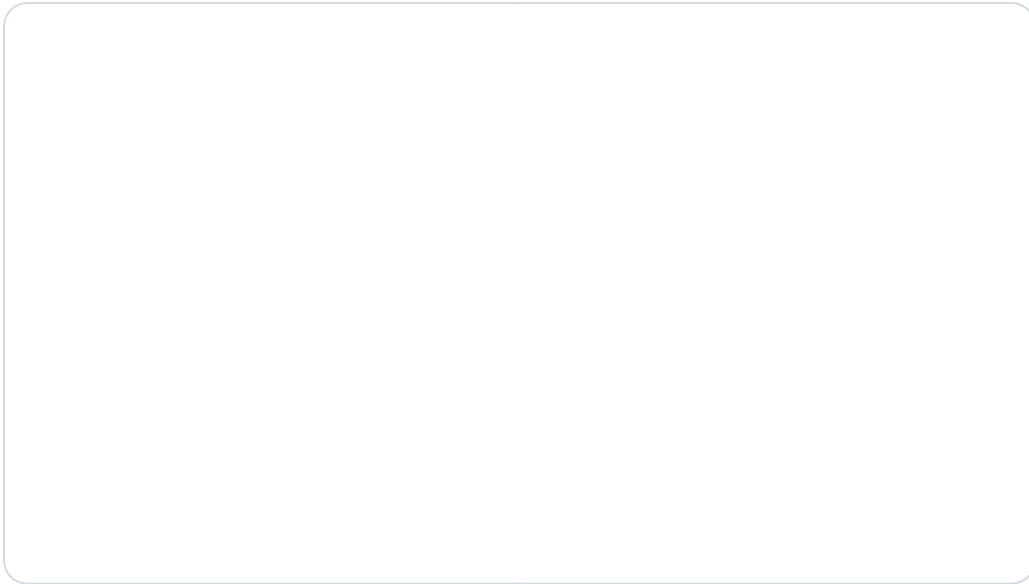
Vice-President of India 

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Hon'ble Vice-President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan graced the Eighth 180 Upvas Parna Ceremony of Jain Acharya Shri Hansratna Surishwarji Maharaj Ji at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi today as the Chief Guest.

Addressing the gathering, the Vice-President lauded Acharya Ji's extraordinary [Show more](#)



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Highlighting the profound contributions of Jainism, one of the world's oldest religions, Shri Radhakrishnan observed that its teachings — Ahimsa (non-violence), Satya (truth), Aparigraha (non-possessiveness), and Anekantavada (the multiple approaches to truth) — have left a lasting impact on India and the world. He noted that Ahimsa, embraced by Mahatma Gandhi in India's freedom struggle, continues to inspire global peace movements. The Vice-President further highlighted that the Jain ethos of vegetarianism, compassion toward animals, and sustainable living has been recognized worldwide as a model for environmental responsibility.

Recalling his personal journey, Shri Radhakrishnan shared that he adopted vegetarianism 25 years ago after visiting Kashi, observing that it cultivates humility, maturity, and love for all beings.

He lauded the Government's efforts, under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, to confer 'Classical Language' status to Prakrit and preserve Jain manuscripts through initiatives such as the Gyan Bharatham Mission.

The Vice-President underscored the historic prevalence of Jainism in Tamil Nadu and its wide influence on Tamil culture. He noted Jainism's significant contributions to Tamil literature during the Sangam and post-Sangam periods, citing classical works such as Silappathikaram by Ilango Adigal and Perungathai by Kongu Velir, which reflect the philosophical and ethical ideals of non-violence, truth, and renunciation. He also mentioned that texts such as the Tirukkural and Sangam literature bear Jain influences. Shri Radhakrishnan highlighted the presence of several Jain monasteries across Tamil Nadu, which historically served as centres of learning.

Shri Radhakrishnan praised Acharya Hansratna Surishwarji Maharaj for demonstrating that true strength lies not in wealth or position, but in restraint, compassion, and discipline. He emphasized that Acharya ji's "Save Culture, Save Family, Build Nation" campaign inspires society to uphold values, strengthen families, and build a resilient nation.

Acharya Hansratna Surishwarji Maharaj is a revered Jain monk known for his spiritual discipline and long-term ascetic practices. The Mahaparna marks the ceremonial conclusion of his 180-day fast, which he has undertaken for the eighth time, reflecting his devotion, discipline, and commitment to spreading the principles of Jainism and moral values. This event is a symbol of faith, self-restraint, and inspiration for devotees and the wider community.

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