

OSHWAL AWAAZ



EDITION 79

PARYUSHAN MAHA PARVA 2025



Paryushan Mahaparva 2025 – A Time of Reflection and Renewal

Shree Visa Oshwal Community Nairobi observed Paryushan Mahaparva 2025 from 20th to 27th August 2025, under the guidance of Abhishekbhai Shah and Parshvabhai Shah from India.

Each day began with early morning prayers, Pakshaal, and Ashta Prakari Pooja, followed by Snatra Pooja and Atthai Vyakhyan & Kalpasutra Vanchan at the Upashray. Devotees gathered daily for Pratikraman, Pravachans, Aarti, and Bhakti Bhavna, with Aangi and Kalpasutra Uchhavani beautifully performed as part of the celebrations.

A special highlight was the Shree Mahavir Swami Janma Vanchan and 14 Swapna celebration held on Sunday, 24th August, which brought together the community in devotion, joy, and festivity. This was followed in the evening with Raas-Garba in honour of the auspicious occasion.

The week of prayers, fasting, and self-reflection concluded on Wednesday, 27th August, with Samvatsari Pratikraman, where men, women, and children participated in large numbers. On Thursday, 28th August, the community joyfully marked the conclusion of the festival with the traditional Parna Ceremony at Oshwal Centre, honouring Tapasvis who observed six or more upvas.

Paryushan is a time to strengthen our Jain values of peace, forgiveness, and non-violence. Members embraced these values wholeheartedly, coming together in unity, devotion, and gratitude. The festival ended with the universal greeting of reconciliation and forgiveness:

“Micchami Dukkadam.”

MAHAVIR JANMA



SHREE MAHAVIR SWAMI JANMA VANCHAN AT OSHWAL CENTRE, NAIROBI

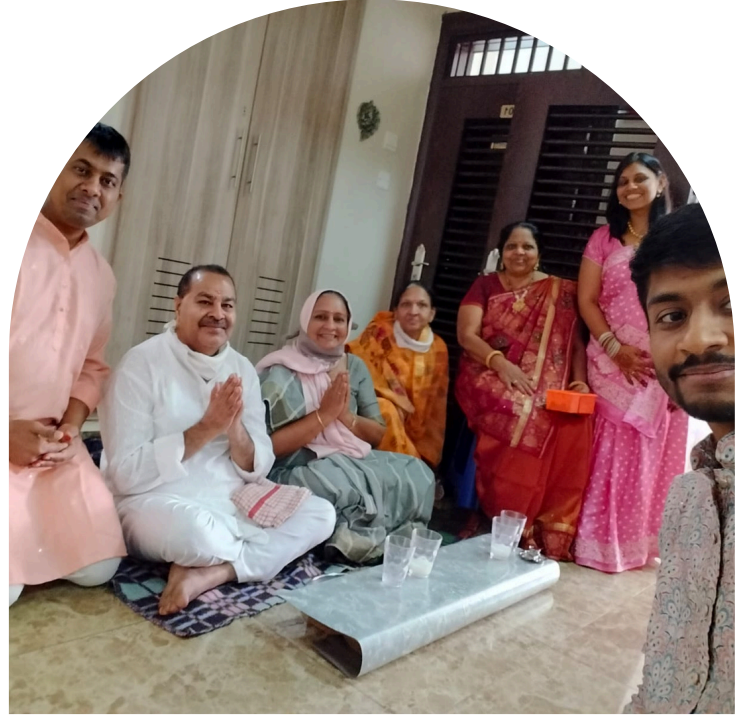
The Religion Committee of Shree Visa Oshwal Community, Nairobi celebrated Shree Mahavir Swami Janma Vanchan (reading of the birth of Lord Mahavir) on Sunday, 24th August 2025 at the Oshwal Centre.

This is celebrated on the 5th Day of Paryushan when all Jains celebrate the 14 dreams that Trishala Mata (Bhagwan Mahavir's Mother) had when Lord Mahavir was to be born.

The Janma Vanchan of Shree Mahavir Swami signifies more than just the birth of a revered spiritual figure, the Vanchan represents the fulfillment of a divine prophecy and the commencement of a journey that would profoundly influence spiritual and ethical thought. His life's work stands as a beacon of non-violence, truth, and self-discipline, guiding countless individuals on their spiritual paths and contributing significantly to the rich tapestry of global spirituality.

King Siddhartha and Queen Trishla were blessed with the great fortune of being the parents of Bhagwan Mahavir. On the beautiful moonlit night, when Queen Trishla conceived the Tirthankar Bhagwan, she saw the auspicious 14 dreams and each dream symbolised a quality that the child would possess. Devotees did the darshan of 14 dreams seen by Trishala Mata and heard the Vanchan which was conducted by lecturers from India, Abhishekbhai and Parshvabhai. The celebration was concluded with Arti and Mangal Divo with an attendance of over 2500pax. The Penda Prabhavna was done by the Jain Social Group Nairobi.

PANCH TIRTH



Chaitya Paripati – A Sacred Pilgrimage of Devotion
On Sunday, 31st August 2025, Shree Visa Oshwal Community Nairobi joyfully observed the auspicious tradition of Chaitya Paripati, organized by the Religion Committee. This spiritual pilgrimage is one of the treasured celebrations in Jainism, where Shravaks and Shravikas (laymen and women) visit various Chaityas (temples) with devotion and reverence.

This year's Chaitya Paripati was lovingly sponsored by Mrs. Ellaben Kantilal Chandaria and family, in memory of Late Jamnaben Lalji Raimal Chandaria.

Two buses were arranged for senior members to depart from Visa Oshwal Mahajanwadi at 7:00am. The sacred journey included visits to:

- Shree Munisuvratswami Jinalay, Limuru Road
- Ghar Derasar at Laxmiben's house, Ngara
- Ghar Derasar at Mrs. Bhartiben's flat, Oshwal Park C101
- Ghar Derasar at Mr. Bhummitbhai's flat, Oshwal Park C404
- Ghar Derasar at Dahiben's house, 2nd Parklands
- Ghar Derasar at Sumitraben's house, Kyuna
- Ghar Derasar at Anilaben Mahendra Shah, Shanzu Gardens off Kyuna Road
- Ghar Derasar at Nilaben's house, Spring Valley

The pilgrimage culminated with a soulful Sadharmik Bhakti at Visa Oshwal Mahajanwadi, Limuru Road, at 12:30pm.

The Chaitya Paripati not only strengthened spiritual reflection but also brought the community together in unity, faith, and gratitude – a true celebration of Jain values of devotion and togetherness.



PARYUSHAN TAPASVI BAHUMAN



The Religion Committee of Shree Visa Oshwal Community, Nairobi held the Tapasvi Bahuman during the Paryushan Mahaparva on Tuesday, 26th August 2025 at the VOC Mahajanwadi, Limuru Road.

Mrs. Monaben Ketul Gutka completed 31 Upvas, Mrs. Kantaben Premchand Shah completed 24 Upvas and Mrs. Anilaben Dedhia completed 17 Upvas amongst 90 other members who completed various Upvas. VOC Chair, Mrs. Bindi Rashmi Shah felicitated all the Tapasvis and the Religion Committee Chairlady, Mrs. Bhavni Dhiraj Dodhia thanked the two guests, Mr. Parshva Shah and Mr. Abhishek Shah from India for conducting the vibrant Paryushan Lectures and Bhakti. Mr. Sudeep Kulasari of the High Commission of India performed the Bahuman of the two guests.

Paryushan Mahaparva is the most prominent festival for Jains lasting eight days and Jains usually observe fasts to maintain whatever self-control is possible for the individual and abstain from pleasures of the 5 senses and dwelling in the self in deep concentration. Fasting can be done to purify both the body and the soul and can be done also as a penance. There are various types of fasts:

Mrs. Jayshreeben Navin Galaiya gave a vote of thanks to all donors and volunteers for the Paryushan Maha Parva.



Oshwal Sports Complex

Volleyball Tourmanent 2025

Under the banner of the Oshwal Sports Complex, we hosted an internal volleyball tournament open to Oshwal members. The tournament saw 27 volleyball players taking part in the tournament. We formed 3 teams of 9 players each amongst the registered players and named the teams as Simba, Kifaru and Chui.

The tournament saw the round robin stage been played from Monday 8th sept through to Wednesday 10th sept 2025 followed by the Finals that was played on 11th Sept 2025. All the games were played in a scoring format right up to the finals. The matches were intense and competitive with the players giving their all for their respective teams.

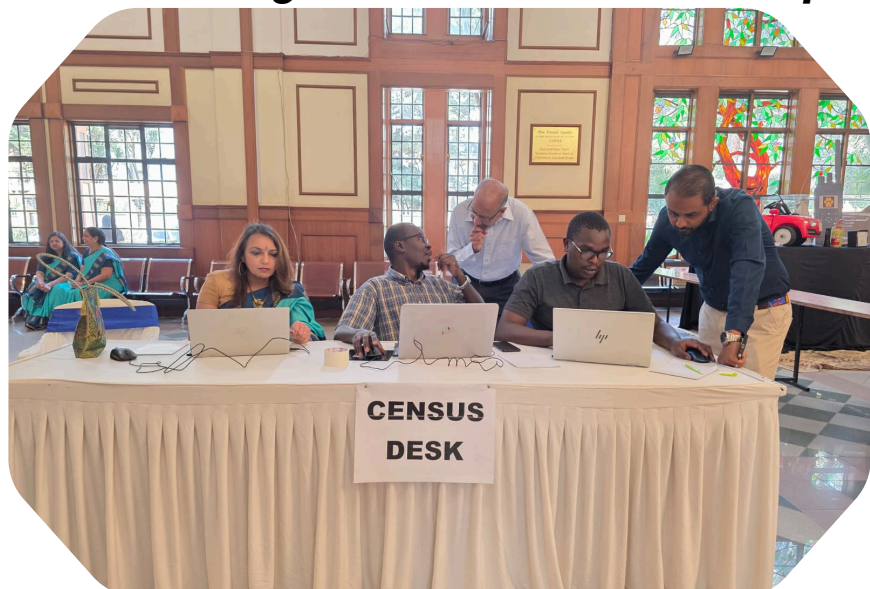
Following are the results of the tournament –
Winner – Team Simba captained by Sachil Gudka
Runner up – Team Chui Captained by Kavita Shah
Second Runner up – Team Kifaru captained by Pratik Haria.



ICT- CENSUS 2025

The ICT Committee has been instrumental in assisting members to complete the Census to all members, especially supporting our seniors with great care and efficiency. This year marks the first time we are conducting the Census using an VOC personalized online app, making the process faster and more accessible.

We highly recommend that all members sign up, as this registration will ensure swift assistance during the issuance of new car passes in 2026.





TAWAA AWARDS 2025

Celebrating Oshwal Excellence at the Tawaa Awards 2025

On behalf of the Trustees, Office Bearers, and Managing Committee of Shree Visa Oshwal Community Nairobi, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to all Oshwal achievers who were nominated and honored at the Tawaa Awards 2025 The Asian Weekly Achievers Awards.

It fills us with immense pride to see our Community members recognized for their dedication, talent, and contributions. Among the highlights of the evening, our very own Diwali Fair 2024, organized by the Diwali Task Force, was awarded the title of Best Community Event of 2025 a testament to the teamwork, creativity, and spirit of unity that defines Oshwal.

We also celebrate the individual Oshwal achievers of 2024 whose accomplishments continue to inspire and uplift us all. These recognitions remind us that with commitment and collaboration, Oshwal can shine brightly across diverse fields and platforms.

As a Community, we are truly grateful for these honors and remain inspired to keep engaging, contributing, and achieving together. Let us continue to support and celebrate one another as we scale even greater heights of excellence.

Together, we shine brighter as Oshwal.



Young Oshwal 2025

Diyan's Dream on Kilimanjaro

On 13th August 2025, son Diyan Shah (12-12-2014) reached the Uhuru Peak of Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895m) at just 10 years old.

The climb was not easy. Guided by Baraka, whose words "pole pole" and motto "one team, one dream, till the top we don't stop" stayed with him, Diyan kept moving through the freezing darkness. The temperature was well below zero, and the pain in his feet was almost unbearable, but he never gave up.

They set out from Kibo Hut at 12:10am, pushed for nine hours to the summit, then two more hours back down to Kibo. After a quick lunch and packing up, they walked another three hours to Horombo Hut. It was a 15-16 hour day on foot, one of the toughest challenges a young climber could face.

Through it all, Diyan's spirit carried him — slow steps, steady breaths, and the belief that he could make it.

This summit has been his dream since he climbed Mount Kenya's Lenana Peak in 2022. Now he hopes to take on more mountains around the world and, more importantly, to inspire other children his age to be adventurous, courageous, and to join him on future climbs as friends and teammates.

As parents, watching him live this dream has been the most humbling and inspiring experience of our lives.



At just 8 years old, Nandini has made history by becoming the youngest Asian girl in East Africa to reach the Uhuru Peak of Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895m). Scaling Africa's highest mountain is a feat many seasoned trekkers dream of, and her courage, resilience, and determination carried her through to the summit.

Her elder brother Kush, 11 years old, also displayed extraordinary strength and commitment, climbing an impressive 5,000m above sea level before being stopped by altitude sickness. Though he could not complete the summit, his effort and perseverance remain deeply inspiring.

This remarkable journey was not theirs alone. With the unwavering support and encouragement of their parents, Hanikssa and Nayan, the family trekked together, step by step, proving that discipline, teamwork, and love can move mountains — quite literally.

The Kilimanjaro climb is only one milestone in their adventurous journey. Together, the family has also conquered Le Satima, Mount Kenya's Lenana Peak, Elephant Hill, Suswa, Olesekut, Kiou, Kalem bwani, Oldonyo Sabuk, Iveti Hill, Table Mountain, Teleki Mountain, Sleeping Warrior, Burguret Hill bamboo forest, Masaku Twin Peaks, and Logonot.

These climbs showcase not only their love for the outdoors but also their commitment to living courageously as a family, inspiring the community with the message that no dream is too big when pursued with passion and unity.