

Its my privilege to propose a vote of thanks on this 11th IOJ Annual Ahimsa Day celebration.

I, on behalf of our Chairman and my fellow Directors of the Institute of Jainology, I Would like to thank first of all our three Co-hosts for the evening

Lord Dholakia, Mr Shailesh Vara and Mr Barry Gardiner, Chairmen of the Parliamentary Friends of India of their respective parties.

I extend ;our thanks to Mr Tim Yeo and Mr David Anees and their office staff for assistance in securing the use of this committee room for us.

We are also grateful to Pujya Samanijis for reciting the prayers this evening

A big thank you to Mr Gavin Grant Chief Executive of RSPCA for his excellent

Keynote address.

We are grateful to Dr Melanie Joy from Boston, Founder and President of Carnism Awareness & Action Network for gracefully accepting the Ahimsa Award 2013. We are inspired by your great work.

I wish to express our appreciation to Mr & Mrs Sudhir Lodha, Minister of State, Tamil Nadu who has travelled from Chennai to grace the occasion.

Further we are grateful to Mr D K Patel from Indian High Commission to spend his valuable time with us this evening.

We would like to acknowledge our gratitude to Jyotsna Samji for being the Compere for this evening.

We are most grateful to all the speakers for their contribution this evening.

Ladies and Gentlemen, an event like this cannot happen overnight. The wheels start rolling weeks and may be months ago. It requires long term planning and executing. We have been fortunate to be backed by a team led by Mr Jaysukh Mehta of very motivated and dedicated colleagues of the Institute.

And finally we thank you all Ladies and gentlemen for being here with us this evening.

Thank you so much. Good night and have a safe journey home .