

Annotation

This thesis aims to summarize and explicate a conception of the soul in Jaina tradition with a presentation of appropriate context. The thesis is divided into three parts. The first part of the thesis is dedicated to Jaina metaphysics and cosmology. The second part is dedicated to the conception of the soul (*jiva*), karma and spiritual progress of a man. The last part is dedicated to the religious practices of Jains associated with this doctrine – especially to the phenomenon of non-violence and voluntarily starvation to the dead (*sallékhana*).