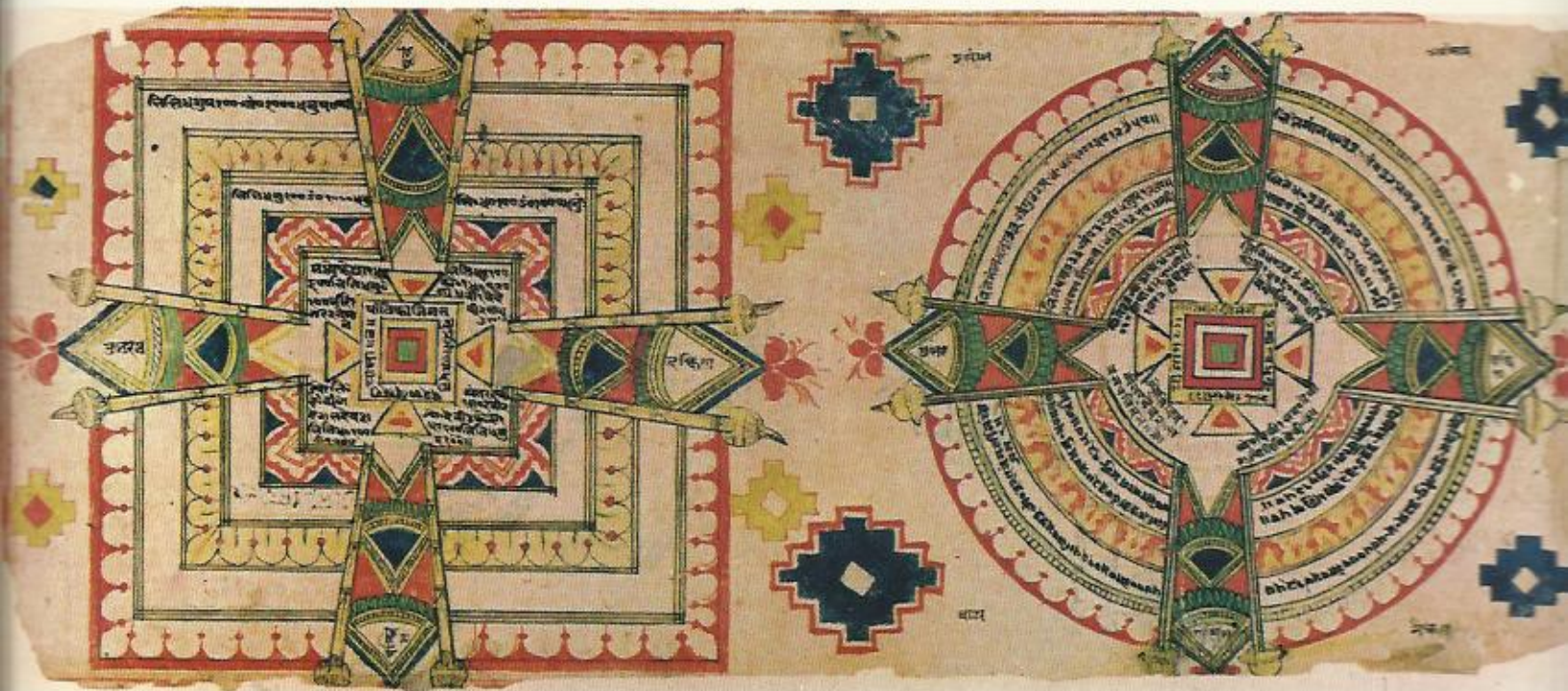




6. Assembly-places.

[Painted on paper, XVIIth century, Gujarat]

The place where the samavasaraṇa is held is sometimes depicted as a circle and sometimes as a square. There are clear affinities between this and the pattern of certain auspicious diagrams.



MS 1

7. Decoration over a doorway (*torana*).
[Gouache on cloth, Ajmer, Rajasthan, 1621]

The Jain tradition provides us with much numerical data, and gives exact figures for the size of the world and for each of its constituent parts. Among the units of measurements, the yojana constantly recurs. Its value, however, far from being fixed, varies according to place and time, and it is variously considered to be the equivalent of between two and six, and on average five, miles.



8. The world (*loka*).

Most
The world has three main parts. They are shown here side by side, and not one above the other, as is more usual. In the figure on the left, a man is holding the cymbal which symbolises the middle world. It is a disk which is theoretically horizontal (*tiryag-loka*), but is always represented as seen from above. The illustration in the centre shows, without paying too much attention to proportion, the pyramid of the seven hells which make up the lower world (*adho-loka*); the picture on the right shows, in the form of a drum (*mṛdaṅga*) standing on end, the upper world (*ūrdhva-loka*) with its various levels of heavens.