



**Dharma Academy of North America
(DANAM)**

11th Annual DANAM Conference 2013

AGENDA

**22–23 November 2013
Baltimore, Maryland**

DHARMA SUSTAINS DIVERSITY

11th Annual DANAM Conference 2013

Sponsored by

Dharma Academy of North America (DANAM)

CONFERENCE THEME:

MODERN MASTERS

22–23 November 2013

**Locations: Hilton Hotel and Marriott Inner Harbor Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland**

**Held in conjunction with the
2013 American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting**

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

STEERING COMMITTEE

Ramdas Lamb, Chair, University of Hawai'i, Manoa
Purushottama Bilimoria, UC Berkeley & University of Melbourne, IJDS/Sophia
Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa
Karma Lekshe Tsomo, University of San Diego
Kusumita P. Pedersen, St. Francis College
Christopher Key Chapple, DANAM Advisory Board, Loyola Marymount University
Pankaj Jain, University of North Texas, DANAM-L Moderator
Jeffery D. Long, Former Chairman, DANAM Advisory Board, Elizabethtown College
Phyllis K. Herman, California State University, Northridge

11th DANAM CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS:

Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.
Chairman, Taksha University
President, DANAM
Rita D. Sherma, Ph.D.,
Vice President,
DANAM, Taksha Univ. SPRS (on leave),
University of Southern California

PURPOSE of the CONFERENCE

To provide a Dedicated Forum where scholars of Dharma Traditions (Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and other Parampara-s) and Indic tribal traditions can engage in the examination of, and constructive approaches to, contemporary issues in Dharma Studies. While there are multiple scholarly arenas for presentation of new textual, sociological, anthropological, and historic approaches to the study of cultural and religious traditions that originated in South Asia, there are few dedicated venues for discourse on, and the presentation of, constructive theological and philosophical approaches to pedagogy, epistemology, theology, or philosophy in these systems. It is hoped that this meeting can explore the possibility that the academic study of these traditions is now mature enough to include and move beyond the limitations of phenomenological methodologies in order to engage the conceptual depth and intellectual applicability of these traditions in an inclusive forum.

DANAM Summary

DANAM (Dharma Academy of North America) is an independent, non-political, donation-based, non-profit organization of Virginia, with a focus on constructive presentation of Dharma traditions in the North American context. Its mission and objectives are described at its web site at www.danam-web.org, which lists the advisory committee of reputable scholars under Board of Distinguished Visiting Scholars (BDVS) drawn from various disciplines. DANAM is a sponsor of the peer-reviewed Journal of Vaishnava Studies, now in its seventeenth year, and the peer-reviewed Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma volumes, now in their sixth year. DANAM holds its Annual Meeting in conjunction with the yearly conference of the American Academy of Religion.

Proceedings of DANAM Conference Sessions

The proceedings of the DANAM Conference sessions are available at Deepak Heritage Books (DHB), www.deepakheritage.com, unless otherwise stated. They are listed as follows: *Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma Volume I* (Eds. Rita D. Sherma and Adarsh Deepak, 2003). *Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma Volume II: Epistemology and Hermeneutics* (Eds. Rita D. Sherma and Adarsh Deepak, 2004). *Asceticism Identity and Pedagogy in Dharma Traditions* (Eds. Graham M. Schweig, Jeffery D. Long, Ramdas Lamb and Adarsh Deepak, 2006). *Dying Death and Afterlife in Dharma Traditions and Western Religions* (Eds. Adarsh Deepak and Rita D. Sherma, 2006). *Authority and Its Challenges in Hindu Texts, Translations, and Transnational Communities* (Ed. Deepak Sarma). *Yoga and Ecology: Dharma for the Earth* (Ed. Christopher K. Chapple).

AGENDA

**11th Annual DANAM Conference 2013 (DANAM13)
Baltimore, Maryland
22 November (8:30 am) – 23 November (1:30 pm) 2013**

DANAM 2013 THEME

MODERN MASTERS

TOPICAL THEMES & SESSIONS

JAINISM – **Charisma and Controversy: Gurus of the Jain Tradition**
HINDUISM – **Swami Vivekananda: A Modern Hindu Master and His Global Relevance -
Modern Pioneers of the Globalization of Krishna Bhakti: Prominent Teachers of the
Chaitanya School**
BUDDHISM – **Buddhist Women Masters**
INTER-DHARMA **Masters, Magicians, and Mystics: Inter-Dharma Disquisitions**
BOOK REVIEW – Critical Constructive Scholarship on the Feminine in Hindu Experience: A
Review of “*Woman and Goddess: Reinterpretations and Re-envisionings,*”
Tracy Pintchman and Rita D. Sherma, eds.

LOCATION OF ACADEMIC SESSIONS

**Friday: Hilton Convention Center, Key Ballroom 1
Saturday: Marriott Inner Harbor, Stadium Ballroom 4**

Friday, 22 Nov 2013

8:30 a.m. DANAM CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK opens. To receive the complimentary Conference Package, including the Abstract Digest, please register ahead with contact information, online at:

http://www.danam-web.org/registration_2013.html

Participation at DANAM sessions at the AAR Annual Meetings is complimentary; there is **NO FEE** involved. However, please register online. Your registration will help us utilize our resources more efficiently to ensure conference sessions run smoothly. The first 108 registrants will receive the Conference package. This information is strictly meant for planning purposes and to facilitate communications.

For Latest Updates of the Agenda, please continue to check the web site at:

www.danam-web.org/events.htm

SESSION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2013

Location: Hilton Hotel, Key Ballroom 1

9:00 – 9:05 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

9:05 – 11:00 am Session 1 (M22-101)

Charisma and Controversy: Gurus of the Jain Tradition
Convener and Presider: Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa

The Sacred & the Secular in the Life of Acharya Tulsi
Samani Unnata Prejna, Florida International University

Osho: The Ultra-modern Trans-Jain Guru of 20th century
Pankaj Jain, University of North Texas
 and *Dr. Vasant Joshi (Swami Satya Vedant)*, Osho World Foundation, New Delhi

Guru Bhakti and Panca Parmesthis in the Thought of Srimad Rajacandra (1867-1901)
Kamini Gogri, University of Mumbai

Acharya Tulsi: Processor of Deconstruction and Reconstruction
Samani Ramaniya Pragma, Florida International University; Jain Vishva Bharati Institute

11:00 am – 1:00 pm Session 2 (M22-105)

Buddhist Women Masters
Convener and Presider: Karma Lekshe Tsomo, University of San Diego

The Women Masters of the Therigatha
Nona Olivia, Sati Institute of Theravada Studies

Wherefore the Tears, Prajāpati? Moving Gautama Buddha's Aunt from the Page into Cultural Context
Victoria Kennick, University of Maryland University College

Illustrating the Way: The Life and Times of Bhiksuni Shig Hiu Wan
Karma Lekshe Tsomo, University of San Diego

Buddhist Women Masters of Kinnaur: Why Don't Nuns Sing about Nuns?
Linda LaMacchia, University of Maryland University College

Heroine in Troubled Times: The Miracles of Khandro Tāre Lhamo during the Socialist Transformation of Tibet
Holly Gayley, University of Colorado, Boulder

Tenzin Chodron: A Scholar Nun of Post-Soviet Buryatia
Zhargal Aiakova, Buryat State Academy of Agriculture

2:00 – 4:30 pm Session 3 (M22-204)

Swami Vivekananda: A Modern Hindu Master and His Global Relevance
Convener and Presider: Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College

The Problematic Alterity of ‘Neo’-Vedānta: Swami Vivekananda, Vidyāraṇya, and the Scholarly Construction of Neo-Vedānta
James Madaio, University of Manchester

Vivekananda as Agent for Change in America's Religious Landscape
Pravrajika Vrajaprana, Vedanta Society of Southern California

Swami Vivekananda: Inspiring Awareness through Education
Ramdas Lamb, University of Hawai'i, Manoa

‘Kali the Mother’: Vivekananda, Ramkrishna and the Primacy of the Mother Principle
Neela Bhattacharya-Saxena, Nassau Community College

Masters of the God Particle: Vivekananda's Science of Yoga and the Quantum Leap of Paramahansa Yogananda
Anna Pokazanyeva, University of California, Santa Barbara

Howard Resnick Rationalizing the Theology of Bhaktivedanta Swami
Ithamar Theodor, University of Haifa

4:30 – 6:30 pm Session 4 (M22-303)

Masters, Magicians, and Mystics: Inter-Dharma Disquisitions
Convener, Purushottama Bilimoria, UC Berkeley & Melbourne, IJDS/Sophia
Presider: Ellen Goldberg, Queen's University, Canada

God the Trickster: Divine Authority and Liminality in the Javanese Wayang Play.
Verena Meyer, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Common Sense/Medical Opinion vs. Faith/Forbearance: Epistemological Conflicts in Shirdi Sai Baba Miracle
Jonathan Loar, Emory University

Master Hsing Yun's Dream of the Buddha-Land for Humanity
Tanya Storch, University of the Pacific, Stockton CA

Acharya Tulsi: A Pragmatic, Charismatic, and Controversial Guru.
Smita Kothari, Arizona State University

Gandhi's interpretation of Sanatan Dharma and Vaishnavism: the Spectre of Narasinh Mehta
Neelima Shukla-Bhatt, Wellesley College, MA

SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2013

Location: Marriott Inner Harbor, Stadium Ballroom 4

9:00 – 11:30 am Session 5 (M23-100)

Book Review Panel: "Woman and Goddess in Hinduism: Reinterpretations and Re-envisionings"

Convener: Ramdas Lamb, University of Hawai'i, Manoa

Presider: Kusumita P. Pedersen, St. Francis College

Panelists

Kathleen Erndl, Florida State University

Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College

Christopher K. Chapple, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles

Graham M. Schweig, Christopher Newport University

Respondents

Tracy Pintchman, Loyola Marymount University

Rita D. Sherma, C.I.S.I., Taksha University

Arvind Sharma, McGill University

Frank X. Clooney, Harvard University

Laurie Patton, Duke University

Phyllis Herman, California State University, Northridge

Neela Saxena, Nassau Community College

Rick Jarrow, Vassar College

Veena Howard, University of Oregon

Loriliai Biernacki, University of Colorado at Boulder

Karen Pechilis, Drew University

11:30 – 1:30 am Session 6 (M23-110)

Session 6: Modern Pioneers of the Globalization of Krishna Bhakti: Prominent Teachers of the Chaitanya School

Convener: Graham M. Schweig, Christopher Newport University

Presider, Ravi M. Gupta, Utah State University

Krishṇa Bhakti and the 'West': The Legacy of Bhaktivinode

Abhishek Ghosh, University of Chicago

Bhaktivinod Thakur's Kṛishā-samhitā: Negotiating History in Nineteenth Century Bengal

Lucian Wong, University of Oxford

Re-Branding Gaudiya Vaishnavism: Bhaktivinoda Thakura and the Religious Marketplace of 19th Century Bengal
Jason Fuller, DePauw University

The Globalization of Bhakti: Bhaktisiddhanta and the Gaudiya Math
Ferdinando Sardella, University of Uppsala

On a New Theological Rhetoric of Krishna Bhakti: Tamal Krishna Goswami's Study of Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
Graham M. Schweig, Christopher Newport University

1:30 pm DANAM 2013 Adjourns

Contacts For Further Information

For Conference Administration & Logistics:

Diana McQuestion, Conference Manager: d.mcquestion@taksha.org Tel: 757-897-3745

For Conference Program:

Dr. Adarsh Deepak, President, DANAM: a.deepak@taksha.org Tel: 757-272-3066 cell

DANAM ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD

The Academic Advisory Board of **DANAM** includes **Professors Rita D. Sherma**, Ph.D., **Chair**, (DANAM Vice President, Taksha University); **Christopher K. Chapple**, Ph.D. (Loyola Marymount University, CA); **Rita M. Gross**, Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI); **Jeffery D. Long**, Ph.D. (Elizabethtown College, PA); **Kusumita P. Pedersen**, Ph.D. (St. Francis College, NYC); **Anantanand Rambachan**, Ph.D. (St. Olaf College, MN); **Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad** (Lancaster University, UK), **T. S. Rukmani**, Ph.D. (Concordia University, Canada); **Graham M. Schweig**, Ph.D. (Christopher Newport University, VA); **Arvind Sharma**, Ph.D. (McGill University, Canada); **Vesna Wallace**, Ph.D. (University of California, Santa Barbara, CA); **Ian Whicher** (University of Manitoba, Canada).

DANAM VICE-PRESIDENT and DIRECTOR of ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Rita D. Sherma, Ph.D.

Chair, DANAM Board of Distinguished Visiting Scholars (BDVS);
Executive Director, School of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Taksha University;
Director, Institute for Theology Beyond Boundaries (ITBB), AZ
University of Southern California

CONFERENCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Diana McQuestion, *Conference Manager*

Pat Deepak **Anjalee Sinha**

Jyoti Gandhi **Meera Rao**

Ravi Deepak

DANAM PRESIDENT**Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.**

Chairman, Taksha University;
Publisher of *Journal for Vaishnava Studies (JVS)*,
and academic volumes in Dharma Studies.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*General Co-Chairs:***Dr. Rajinder Gandhi**, *Chairman, DANAM***Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.**, *President, DANAM, & Chairman, Taksha University***TRAVEL INFORMATION**

The following information websites are for the convenience of the attendees of DANAM13
Conference and/or 2013 AAR Annual Meeting.

From AAR web site:

<http://www.aarweb.org/node/245>