



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

**3<sup>rd</sup> DANAM Conference 2005**

**PROGRAM**

**18-20 November 2005  
Philadelphia, PA**

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**DHARMA SUSTAINS DIVERSITY**

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# **3<sup>rd</sup> DANAM Conference 2005**

*Sponsored by*

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

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*THEME:*

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN CONSTRUCTIVE DHARMA

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18-20 November 2005  
Philadelphia Marriott & Courtyard Downtown  
Philadelphia, PA

Held in conjunction with the 2005 AAR Annual Meeting

*CO-CHAIRS:*

**Adarsh Deepak, Ph. D.,** *President, DANAM*  
**Graham Schweig, Ph. D.,** *Christopher Newport University*  
**Jeffrey Long, Ph. D.,**  *Elizabethtown College*

## *PURPOSE of the CONFERENCE*

To provide a Forum where scholars of Dharma Traditions and interested members of Dharma communities can engage in the examination of, and constructive approaches to, contemporary issues in the study of Dharma Traditions. While there are multiple scholarly arenas for presentation of new textual, sociological, anthropological and historic approaches to the study of Indian cultural and religious traditions, there are no dedicated venues for discourse on, and the presentation of, constructive new 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 Association 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](http://www.danam-web.org), which lists distinguished scholars as Patron and 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 fourteenth year.

## *Proceedings of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> DANAM Conferences*

The proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> DANAM Conferences entitled *Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma: Volume I*, and *Volume II: Epistemology and Hermeneutics* (Eds. Rita D. Sherma and Adarsh Deepak , 2003 and 2004), are available at Deepak Heritage Books (DHB), [www.deepakheritage.com](http://www.deepakheritage.com).

## AGENDA

**3rd DANAM Conference 2005 (DANAM05)**  
Philadelphia Marriott & Courtyard Downtown  
18-20 November 2005

### LOCATION OF SESSIONS

18 November 2005 (1:00 pm-6:30 pm): Philadelphia Marriott Downtown  
AM18-51 (1:00-3:30pm), AM18-102 (4:00-6:30pm): Salon K & L  
19 November 2005 (1:00 pm-6:30 pm): Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown  
AM19-16 (1:00-3:30pm)\*, AM19-52 (4:00-6:30pm)\*: Room 102  
20 November 2005 (9:00 am-11:30am): Philadelphia Marriott Downtown  
AM20-100 (9:00-11:30am): Independence II  
(\*These time slots will be correctly shown in 2005 AAR At-A-Glance  
Booklet, not in the 2005 AAR Program Book)  
(Note: The two hotels are across the street from each other.)

### 18 NOVEMBER 2005

**12:30 pm:** DANAM REGISTRATION DESK opens. To receive the Abstract Digest, please register ahead with contact information, online at:

[http://www.danam-web.org/registration\\_1.html](http://www.danam-web.org/registration_1.html)

#### **AAR Session AM18-51**

**Dharma Association of North America (DANAM) – SESSION 1**  
**1:00pm–3:30pm Philadelphia Marriot Downtown – Salon K & L**

#### **1:00 OPENING SESSION**

Theme: **Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

**Adarsh Deepak**, President, DANAM & Co-Chair,  
3rd DANAM Conference, Presiding

S0.1 **Rajinder Gandhi**, Chair, DANAM & President,

Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America

*Welcome Remarks*

S0.2 **Adarsh Deepak**, President, DANAM & Co-Chair,

3rd DANAM Conference

*DANAM Introduction*

S0.3 **Graham M. Schweig**, Christopher Newport University, and **Jeffrey**

**Long**, Elizabethtown College, Co-Chairs, 3rd DANAM Conference

*Conference Introduction*

#### **1:08 SESSION 1**

Theme: **Contemporary Asceticism in Dharma Traditions**

**Ramdas Lamb**, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Presiding

- S1.1 **Karma Lekshe Tsomo**, University of San Diego  
*Renunciation in Contemporary Buddhist Monasticism*
- S1.2 **Jeffrey Long**, Elizabethtown College  
*Radical Renunciation: The Aim and Practice of Jain Asceticism*
- S1.3 **Pravrajika Vrajaprana**, Vedanta Society of  
Southern California  
*Looking In and Letting Go: Viveka and Vairagya in the Vedanta Tradition*
- S1.4 **Veena Howard Rani**, University of Oregon, Lane  
Community College  
*Asceticism in the Life of Mahatma Gandhi*
- S1.5 **Kusumita Pedersen**, St. Francis College, NYC,  
Respondent
- Discussions

**3:40 - 4:00 pm: BREAK**

**18 November 2005**

**AAR Session AM18-102**

**Dharma Association of North America (DANAM) – SESSION 2**

**4:00 - 6:30 pm: Philadelphia Marriott Downtown – Salon K & L**

**4:00** Theme: **Who is a Hindu?**

**Jeffrey D. Long**, Elizabethtown College, Presiding

- S2.1 **Ramdas Lamb**, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
*Casteless Hinduism: A View from Top and Bottom*
- S2.2 **Pravrajika Gayatriprana**, Vedanta Society  
*Hinduism and Universal Religion: Are Western Vedantists Hindus?*
- S2.3 **Frank G. Morales**, Center for the Study of Religion and  
Civilization, Wisconsin  
*The Epistemological Foundations of Religious Affiliation in the Context of Hindu  
Identity*
- S2.4 **Rita D. Sherma**, Binghamton University  
*The Gifts of Exile: On Being a Hindu in a Global Era*
- S2.5 **Pandita Indrani**, Arya Pratinidhi Sabha America  
*How the Arya Samaj Remained Hindu while Challenging Orthodoxy*

S2.6 **Jeffrey Long**, Elizabethtown College,  
Respondent

Discussions

**6:30 pm:** Adjourn for the day.

**19 NOVEMBER 2005**

**AAR Session AM19-16**

**Dharma Association of North America (DANAM) – SESSION 3**

**1:00pm -3:30am Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown – Room 102**

**1:00 pm:** DANAM Registration Desk Re-Opens

**1:00 - 1:05 pm: Introductory Remarks**

**Adarsh Deepak**, DANAM Conference Co-Chair

Theme: **Dying, Death and Afterlife in Dharma Traditions and Western Religions**

**Adarsh Deepak**, DANAM, and **Rita D. Sherma**, Binghamton

University, Conveners

**Graham M. Schweig**, Christopher Newport University, Presiding

S3.1 **Arindam Chakrabarti**, University of Hawaii at Manoa

*What is It Like to Die?: Analytical Assessment of Ancient Indian Vedic Philosophical Concerns with Death*

S3.2 **Karma Lekshe Tsomo**, University of San

Diego

*Death, Afterlife, and In-Between: Buddhist Perspectives*

S3.3 **Christopher K. Chapple**, Loyola Marymount

University, San Diego

*Dying, and Death in Jaina Dharma Traditions*

S3.4 **Alan Segal**, Columbia University

*Death and Afterlife In Western Religions- Judaism, Christianity and Islam*

Discussions

**3:35 -4:00pm: LUNCH BREAK**

**19 NOVEMBER 2005**

**AAR Session AM19-52**

**Dharma Association of North America (DANAM) – SESSION 4**

**4:00pm – 6:30pm Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown – Room 102**

**4:00 Panel**

Theme: *Samkhya-Yoga after Larson: New Directions in Samkhya-Yoga Research*

**Tracy Pintchman**, Loyola University Chicago, Convener

S4.0 **Judy Saltzman**, California Polytechnic State University, Presiding

**Panelists:**

S4.1 **T. S. Rukmani**, Concordia University, Canada

*Revisiting the Concept of Jivanmukti in Samkhya*

S4.2 **Lloyd W. Pflueger**, Truman State University

*Person, Purity, and Power in the Yogasutra*

S4.3 **Pratap K. Penumala**, University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

*Saamkhya-Yoga Contributions to Srivaishnava Theology*

S4.4 **Paul Muller-Ortega**, University of Rochester

*A Tantric Critique of Patanjali*

S4.5 **Knut A. Jacobsen**, University of Bergen, Norway

*In Kapila's Cave: A Samkhya-Yoga Renaissance in Bengal*

S4.6 **Ramdas Lamb**, University of Hawaii at Manoa

*Yoga in the Contemporary Ramananda Sampradaya*

S4.7 **Tracy Pintchman**, Loyola University Chicago

*Maternal Devotion as a Form of Yoga*

S4.8 **Gerald J. Larson**, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Santa Barbara and

University of Indiana, Bloomington,  
Respondent

6:30 Adjourn

**20 NOVEMBER 2005**

**AAR Session AM20-100**

**Dharma Association of North America (DANAM) – SESSION 5**

**9:00-11:30am Philadelphia Marriot Downtown–Independence II**

**9:00 Panel:**

Theme: *Challenges in Teaching "Sensitive" Topics in Hindu Traditions in the Western  
Diaspora Context*

**Vasudha Narayanan**, University of Florida, Presiding

Here, the "sensitive" and difficult topics in teaching Hindu Traditions in the Western context include, but are not limited to: Divinity and divinities (The One and the Many), deva-s and devi-s (gods and goddesses), lila, imaging the divine, "graven" image, Shiva linga, Kali, holy cow, Sanskrit Dharma terms and concepts without western counterparts, worshipful arts, TM, misappropriations of yoga, sacred rivers such as Ganga (not "Ganges"), etc.

**Panelists:**

- S5.1 **Vasudha Narayanan**, University of Florida  
*Introducing the Caste System from Multiple Perspectives*
- S5.2 **Graham Schweig**, Christopher Newport Univ.  
*The Sacred Image: Inscrutable Multiplicity and Affability*
- S5.3 **Guy Beck**, Tulane University  
*Introducing 'Aryan'*
- S5.4 **Mekhala Devi Natavar**, Princeton University  
*Presenting Sacred Narratives in Indian Dance*
- S5.5 **Lance Nelson**, University of San Diego  
*Introducing Krishna*
- S5.6 **Deepak Sarma**, Case Western Reserve University  
*Introducing Varna and Jati*
- S5.x **Others TBA**, pending confirmation  
*Kali; Maya*  
Discussions
- 11:30** Adjourn

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

[www.danam-web.org/events.htm](http://www.danam-web.org/events.htm)

**Point of Contacts - For Conference Administration & Logistics:**

**Ms. Diana McQuestion**, Conference Manager: [Diana@stcnet.com](mailto:Diana@stcnet.com)

Tel: 757-766-5831 (till 16 Nov 05); Marriott Philadelphia (17-20 Nov 05)

**For Conference Program:**

**Dr. Adarsh Deepak**, President, DANAM: [a.deepak@stcnet.com](mailto:a.deepak@stcnet.com)



## **CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

**Graham Schweig**, Co-Chair, Christopher Newport University

**Jeffrey Long**, Co-Chair, Elizabethtown College, PA

**Ramdas Lamb**, University of Hawaii at Manoa

**Rita D. Sherma**, Binghamton University (Scheduled to be on travel outside USA during the conference)

### **DANAM ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD**

The Academic Advisory Board of **DANAM** includes **Professors Rita D. Sherma**, Chair, (Binghamton University & Berghoffer Institute), **Arvind Sharma** (McGill Univ), **Subhash Kak** (Louisiana State University), **Kusumita Pedersen** (St. Francis College, NYC), **Anant Rambachan** (St. Olaf College), **T. S. Rukmani** (Concordia University), **Graham Schweig** (Christopher Newport University), **Srinivas Tilak** (Montreal), **Ian Whicher** (University of Manitoba)

### **DANAM PRESIDENT**

**Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.**, (publisher of *Journal for Vaishnava Studies*, and academic volumes in Hindu Studies).

### **COORDINATION COMMITTEE**

**Diana McQuestion**, *Conference Manager*

**Meera Rao**

**Anjalee Mitra**

**Jyoti Gandhi**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

*General Co-Chairs:*

**Dr. Adarsh Deepak**, *President, DANAM*

**Dr. Rajinder Gandhi**, *Chairman, DANAM*

### **TRAVEL INFORMATION**

The following information web sites are for the convenience of the attendees of DANAM05 Conference and/or AAR 2005 Meeting.

From AAR Web site at:  
<http://www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/default.asp>

### ***Discount Airfares to Philadelphia***

To take advantage of specially discounted rates for travel to the AAR Annual Meeting in Philadelphia this November, U.S. Airways is the official airline of the 2005 Annual Meeting. Amtrak is offering a 10% discount for train travel to Philadelphia from November 16 to November 21. Please note that November 22 is a holiday blackout date and the discount is not available.

Call Toll Free...

<b>Carrier</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>File Number</b>
U.S. Airways	1-877-874-7687	91193408
Amtrak	1-800-872-7245	X86G-939

If you book through your own travel agency, be sure to give them the appropriate discount code above.

### ***ABOUT HOUSING***

In order to make a hotel reservation for the 2005 Annual Meetings in Philadelphia at the AAR designated hotels (at AAR discounted rates) near the Philadelphia Convention Center, you must have already registered for AAR 2005 Meeting\*. If you have not yet registered for the Annual Meetings, please go to [www.aarweb.org](http://www.aarweb.org) and you will be able to make a reservation at the end of the process.

\* <http://www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/registration.asp>

For staying at hotels other than the AAR Meeting designated hotels, see the following web sites under 'About Philadelphia'. These hotels may in some cases have lower room rates than the AAR Hotels.

### ***ABOUT PHILADELPHIA***

**Visitors Bureau:** <http://www.pcvb.org/>

**City:** <http://www.phila.gov/>

**Philadelphia Airport:** <http://www.phl.org/>

**Philadelphia Guide:** <http://www.philadelphia.com/>

**Weather:** <http://www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/weather.asp>

### ***ACCESSIBILITY TO PHILADELPHIA***

<http://www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/accessibility.asp>

### ***DIRECTIONS TO AAR 2005 ANNUAL MEETING VENUES***

<http://www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/directions/default.asp>

### ***ABOUT 2005 AAR ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION***

**For those who wish to register for the**

**AAR Annual meeting & Book Exhibition  
Philadelphia, PA, 19-22 November 2005**

**AAR Web site is:**

<http://www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/registration.asp>

