



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

16th Annual DANAM Conference 2018

AGENDA

**16–17 November 2018
Denver, Colorado**

DHARMA SUSTAINS DIVERSITY

16th Annual DANAM Conference 2018

Sponsored by

Dharma Academy of North America (DANAM)

16–17 November 2018

Location: Embassy Suites Downtown
Denver, Colorado

**Held in conjunction with the
2018 American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting**

16th DANAM CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS:

Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.
President, DANAM
Chairman, Taksha Institute

Rita D. Sherma, Ph.D.
Vice President, DANAM

Director, Center for Dharma Studies, The Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley CA

PURPOSE of the CONFERENCE

To provide a Dedicated Forum where scholars of Dharma Traditions (Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and other Guru-Shishya Dharma-s) 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 holds its Annual Meeting in conjunction with the yearly conference of the American Academy of Religion. DANAM was a sponsor during 2001-2011 of the peer-reviewed *Journal of Vaishnava Studies*, and since 2003 is the sponsor of the peer-reviewed *Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma* edited volumes.

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

16th Annual DANAM Conference

16 November (9:00 am) – 17 November 2018 (3:30 pm)

LOCATION OF ACADEMIC SESSIONS

Embassy Suites Downtown
1420 Stout St., Denver, CO 80202

Friday, 16 Nov 2018

8:00 a.m. DANAM CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK opens.

Participation at DANAM sessions at the AAR Annual Meetings is *complimentary*; there is **NO FEE** involved. However, we would be pleased to receive a preregistration notice from you by email. 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

*Location for all Sessions:
Embassy Suites Downtown, Crystal Ballroom, Salon C*

FRIDAY, 16 NOVEMBER**SESSION 1: 9:00 – 10:45 am (M16-100)****Love and Compassion: Insights from Dharma Traditions**

Convener and Presider: Kusumita P. Pedersen, St. Francis College (*Emerita*)

Samani Pratibha Pragma, University of London

A Comparative Study of Jaina Mitti-bhāvanā and Buddhist Mettā-bhāvana

Vineet Chander, Princeton University

Mā Śucah: Śri Kṛṣṇa's Expression of Love and Compassion in the Bhagavad Gītā

Patrick Beldio, Catholic University of America

The Transformative Power of Love in the Sri Aurobindo Ashram

Howard, California State University, Fresno

'Love-Force' and its Variations across Nonviolent Movements

Lekshe Tsomo, University of San Diego

Love and Compassion in Conflict Zones: Reimagining Two Tarnished Buddhist Principles

SESSION 2: 11:00 am – 12:45 pm (M16-105)**Pāñcarātra: Sources and Continuities****Convener:** Joydeep Bagchee, Ludwig-Maximilians-University**Presider:** Bruce M. Sullivan, Northern Arizona University

Jahnvi Bidnur, BOR Institute

The Nārāyaṇa Aspect of the Mahābhārata: Insights from Its Earliest Known Commentary

Vishwa Adluri, Hunter College

The Nārāyaṇīya and Later Pāncarātra

Joydeep Bagchee, Ludwig-Maximilians-University

Pāñcarātra “Interpolations” in the Mahābhārata

Arvind Jamkhedkar, Indian Council of Historical Research

Epigraphical and Art-Historical Evidence from the Gupta-Vakataka Period for Sattvatadharma**Respondent:** Bruce M. Sullivan, Northern Arizona University**SESSION 3: 2:00 – 3:45 pm (M16-203)****Dharma and Anticolonial Solidarity with the Other****Convener:** David Lawrence, University of North Dakota**Presider:**

Ayon Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mission and Vivekananda Educational Research Institute, West Bengal, India

***Śiva jñāne jīva sevā*: Reexamining Swami Vivekananda’s Practical Vedānta in the Light of Sri Ramakrishna**

Gopinath Pillai, Santhigiri Ashram, Trivandrum, India

Paradigm Shift in Spiritual Discourse on Dharma: Santhigiri Model in The Emerging Context of Postcolonial – Post Modern Enquiry for Human Sustainability

David Peter Lawrence, University of North Dakota, and Eddah Mutua, St. Cloud State

Dialogues and Solidarity among the Sages: Bimal Krishna Matilal and Henry Odera Oruka’s Advocacy for the Philosophical Rationality of Nonwestern Cultures

Emili Choge, Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya

The Making of a Kenyan Man and Woman: Comparative studies of Rites of Passage across Kenya Communities

Li Chenyang, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Revisiting Harmony: A Confucian Perspective

Respondent: Rita Sherma, GTU

SESSION 4: 4:00 – 5:30 pm (M16-302)

Regional Bhakti Traditions

Convener: Ravi M. Gupta, Utah State University

Presider:

Rodney Sebastian, University of Florida

Mapping the Manipuri Rāsālīlā: Theme, Ritual and Structure

Lance Nelson, University of San Diego

Devotion and Conflict: Inculturating Transnational ISKCON Vaisnavism in Hindu Bali

Kirtan Patel, University of Texas at Austin

Bhakti through Letters: Caste and Ashram Politics in Nineteenth Century Swaminarayan Vaisnavism

SESSION 5: 5:45 – 7:15 pm (M16-400)

Dharma and Animals

Convener: Tanya Storch, University of the Pacific

Presider: Tracy Tiemeier, Loyola Marymount University

Ramdas Lamb, University of Hawaii

Animals and Ahimsa in Hindu Traditions and Culture

Nawaraj Chaulagain, Illinois Wesleyan University

The Sacred and the Sacrificial: The Status of Animals in Hindu Religious Life

Michael Reading, Claremont School of Theology

Jain Perspectives Toward Animals: An Ethological Cross-Examination

Tanya Storch, University of the Pacific
Sinitic Mahayana and Preaching Dharma to Animals

Cogen Bohanec, GTU
Mediation Between Animal Rights and Environmental Ethics from a Constructive Hindu Eco-Theology

Respondent: Veena Howard, California State University, Fresno

SATURDAY, 17 NOVEMBER

SESSION 6: 11:00 am – 12:30 pm (M17-105)

Book Review Panel: *Dharma and Halacha: Comparative Studies in Hindu-Jewish Philosophy and Religion*, co-edited by I. Theodor and Y. Greenberg (Lexington)

Convener: Rita D. Sherma, GTU

Presider:

Panel:

SESSION 7: 1:30 – 3:30 pm (M17-201)

Methodologies for the Study of Modern Yoga: New Perspectives

Convener: Christopher Miller, Loyola Marymount University

Presider: Christopher Chapple, Loyola Marymount University

Amanda Lucia, University of California, Riverside

Ephemeral Field: Ethnographic Research on Transient Spirituality

Christa Schwind, University of Denver

Contemporary Yoga: Theory, Method and Rhizomatic Genealogy

Brita Heimarck, Boston University

Genealogies of the Present: Sacred Sound Practices in Yogic Traditions and the Underlying Philosophies

Anya Foxen, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

In Modern Yoga a Magic Dwells

Christopher Miller, Loyola Marymount University

Transnational Yoga and the Mobility of Embodied Alchemy

DANAM 2018 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

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Tanya Storch, University of the Pacific

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Joydeep Bagchee, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich

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TRAVEL INFORMATION

The following information website can be viewed for the convenience of the attendees of DANAM18 Conference and/or 2018 AAR Annual Meeting.

From AAR web site:
<http://www.aarweb.org/node/245>