



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

10th Annual DANAM Conference 2012

AGENDA

**16–19 November 2012
Chicago, Illinois**

DHARMA SUSTAINS DIVERSITY

10th Annual DANAM Conference 2012

Sponsored by

Dharma Academy of North America (DANAM)

CONFERENCE THEME:

***THE NEW TRANSMISSION OF DHARMA TRADITIONS:
PRESERVING TRADITIONS, CREATING IDENTITIES***

16–19 November 2012

Location: McCormick Convention Center
Chicago, Illinois

**Held in conjunction with the
2012 American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting**

10th DANAM CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS:

Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.

Chairman, Taksha University
President, DANAM

Rita D. Sherma, Ph.D.

Vice President, DANAM
Professor & Executive Director, SPRS, Taksha University

PURPOSE of the CONFERENCE

To provide a Dedicated Forum where scholars of Dharma Traditions (Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh 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 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

10th Annual DANAM Conference 2012 (DANAM12)

Chicago, Illinois

Meeting Hall: McCormick Convention Center, South Building

16 November (8:30 am) – 19 November (11:00 am) 2012

DANAM 2012 THEME

***THE NEW TRANSMISSION OF DHARMA TRADITIONS:
PRESERVING TRADITIONS, CREATING IDENTITIES***

TOPICAL THEMES & SESSIONS

JAINISM – The Contemporary Transmission of Jain Dharma

HINDUISM – Hindu Dharma, Yoga, and the East-West Transmission

SIKHISM – Sikh Identity and the Kundalini Yoga Movement of Yogi Bhajan

BUDDHISM – Transmission, Innovation, and Identity Formation in Buddhist Communities

The Book Review session has been postponed until 2013.

[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

McCormick Convention Center and Hilton Hotel (Friday evening only)

Friday, 16 Nov 2012

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_1.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, 16 NOVEMBER 2012

9:00 – 9:05 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

9:05 – 11:00 am Session 1 (M16-100)

McCormick Convention Center, South Building Room S501a

The Contemporary Transmission of Jain Dharma

President: Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa

- 1) “The Anuvrat Movement: A Study of Ethical Practice in the Jain Diaspora of North America”
Shivani Bothra, Florida International University
- 2) “Fasting, a Double Edged Sword: Spiritual Fasting, Engaged Fasting, and Coercive Fasting”
Unnata Pragna, at Jain Vishva Bharati and Florida International University
- 3) “Veerayatan: The Transmission of a Reformed Message”
Alexis Reichert, University of Ottawa
- 4) “The Transmission of Jainism through Narratives”
Sherry Fohr, Converse College

Respondent: Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College

11:00 am – 1:00 pm Session 2 (M16-103)

McCormick Convention Center, South Building Room S501a

Hindu Dharma, Yoga, and the East-West Transmission

President: Purushottama Bilimoria, Deakin College and University of California, Berkeley

- 1) “Gurus of Modern Yoga”
Ellen Goldberg, Queens University, and Mark Singleton, St. John’s College
- 2) “Hinduism in Indonesia: Issues in Transmission, Innovation and Transformation”
June McDaniel, College of Charleston
- 3) "A Tale of Two Disciples: Baba Premananda Bharati’s Pioneering Journey to the U.S.A. and His American Disciples"
Gerald Carney, Hampden-Sydney College
- 4) “From Gandhi’s Satyagraha to Passive Resistance: Exploring the Issues of Transmission”
Veena Howard, University of Oregon
- 5) “Gandhi’s *Baghavat Gita* Interpretation: Universalizing its Message and Teachings”
Ithamar Theodor, Haifa University

2:00 – 4:00 pm Session 3 (M16-206)

McCormick Convention Center, South Building Room S501a

Transmission, Innovation, and Identity Formation in Buddhist Communities**President: Karma Lekshe Tsomo, University of San Diego**

1) “Reversing Transmission – or Creating a New Buddhism? The Reception of Buddhist Modernity in the Himalayas”

Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa, University of Alabama

2) “Buddhist Geeks, Generation Y and Integral Evolutionary Buddhism: From Buddhist Modernism to Buddhist Postmodernism?”

Ann Gleig, Millsaps College

3) “The Relationship between Temple Ownership Patterns and Ethnic Identity in Four Sri Lankan American Buddhist Temples”

Natalie Quli, Institute of Buddhist Studies

4) “Buddhism in the American Media Imagination”

Scott A. Mitchell, Institute of Buddhist Studies

5) “Buddhism, Race, and the Political”

Sharon A. Suh, Seattle University

6) “Buddhist Universities in the United States of America”

Tanya Storch, University of the Pacific**4:00 – 6:00 pm Session 4 (M16-300)**

McCormick Convention Center, South Building Room S501a

InterDharma, IntraDharma, and Interfaith Dialogue as Forms of Transmitting Dharma**President: Sachi Edwards, University of Maryland**

1) “Interfaith Dialogue as Dharma Transmission”

Sachi Edwards, University of Maryland

2) “The Internet and the Transmission of Inspiration and Teachings”

Dimple Dhanani, University of Hawai’i

3) “Experiential Dimensions of Religiosity as Academic Transmission”

Anne Valley, University of Ottawa

4) “Reverse Transmission: From Western Academic Scholarship to Buddhist Institutions”

Rita Gross, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire (emerita)

5) “Beyond Introductions: In-depth Academic Teaching of Dharma Traditions as Transmission”

Ramdas Lamb, University of Hawai’i**Respondent: Phyllis Herman, California State University, Northridge**

7:00 – 9:00 pm Session 5 (M16-401)

Hilton Hotel, Williford Room A

Sikh Identity and the Kundalini Yoga Movement of Yogi Bhajan

Presider: Balbinder Bhogal, Hofstra University

- 1) “Hubristic, Heretical, or Heterogeneous? Exploring the KY / 3HO Community in Calgary”
Michael Hawley, Mount Royal University
- 2) “From Maharaj to Mahan Tantric: The Construction of Yogi Bhajan’s Kundalini Yoga”
Philip Deslippe, UC Santa Barbara
- 3) “When Gurbani Sings a Healthy Happy Holy Song~ Toward the Kirtaan Generation”
Nirinjan Kaur Khalsa, University of Michigan

Respondent: Balbinder Bhogal, Hofstra University

SATURDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2012**11:00 am – 1:00 pm Session 6 (M17-108)**

McCormick Convention Center, South Building Room S402a South Building Room S402a

Being in Borderlands: The Negotiation of Boundaries in South Asian Religious Communities

Presider: Christopher K. Chapple, Loyola Marymount University

- 1) “Bishnois: At the Crossroads of Hinduism, Islam, and Jainism”
Pankaj Jain, University of North Texas
- 2) “Diasporic Borders: Of Deterretorialized Hindu-Sikh Transnationals”
Purushottama Bilimoria, Melbourne University/University of California-Berkeley
- 3) “Ownership and its Borders: An Exploration in the Poetics of Habitation”
Leela Prasad, Duke University
- 4) “Ritual Space as Borderland: Building and Breaching Borders in Rathva Rituals”
Gregory D. Alles, McDaniel College

Respondent: Laurie Patton, Duke University

DANAM Conference continues on Monday, 19 November

MONDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2012**9:00 – 11:00 am Session 7 (M19-102)**

Location: McCormick Place Convention Center, West Building, Room W183C

Religious Violence, Pluralism, and the American Social Covenant: Implications of the Sikh Temple Shootings

Presider: Rita D. Sherma, Taksha University

Panelists:

- 1) Mehnaz Afridi, Manhattan College
- 2) Philip Clayton, Claremont Lincoln University
- 3) Morny Joy, University of Calgary
- 4) Balbinder Bhogal, Hofstra University
- 5) Hussein Rashid, Hofstra University

Respondent:

Arvind-Pal Mandair, University of Michigan

11:00 a.m. DANAM 2012 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

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION***STEERING COMMITTEE***

Ramdas Lamb, Chair, University of Hawai'i, Manoa
Purushottama Bilimoria, Melbourne University, and University of California, Berkeley
Balbinder Bhogal, Hofstra University
Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa
Karma Lekshe Tsomo, University of San Diego
Kusumita P. Pedersen, Past Chair, St. Francis College
Christopher Key Chapple, DANAM Advisory Board Representative, Loyola Marymount University
Jeffery D. Long, DANAM Advisory Board Representative, Elizabethtown College
Rita D. Sherma, Director of Programs, DANAM

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); **Arvind Pal Mandair, Ph.D.** (University of Michigan); **Kusumita P. Pedersen, Ph.D.** (DANAM SC Chair, 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); **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

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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 web sites are for the convenience of the attendees of
DANAM12 Conference and/or 2012 AAR Annual Meeting.

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