Dharma Academy of North America (DĀNAM)

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AGENDA

Location of Academic Sessions
Sheraton Denver, Vail (I.M. Pei Tower) - Majestic Level

Friday, 21 November 2026

10:00 am: DANAM Registration desk opens

Opening Remarks: Veena Howard and Rajinder Gandhi

11:00-12:45 pm SESSION 1 (M20-105)

Theme: **Dharma and the Future of Artificial Intelligence**

Organizer and Presider**: Christopher Jain Miller,** Arihanta Institute

Loriliai Biernacki, University of Colorado, Boulder
What does Nondualism mean for AI sentience? And specifically Abhinavagupta's dual-aspect monism?

Stephanie Corigliano, Cal Poly Humboldt
Compassion and AI: Nālagiri or the End-of-times?

Rodney Sebastian, St. John's University
AI and Ethics from Hindu Perspectives

Agni Hogaboom, Arihanta Institute
The Environmental Challenges of Artificial Intelligence: Jain Restraint as an Ethic for AI Development

Jasjit Singh, University of Leeds
Sikh Dharma and AI: Authority, Form and Ethical Custodianship

12:45-1:45 pm Break for Lunch

2:00-3:30 pm SESSION 2 (M20-201)

Theme: **Imagination, Intention, and the Living Earth: Dharma Traditions and the Futures of Sustainability**

Organizer**: Pankaj Jain,** FLAME University

Presider: **Zoe Slatoff-Ponté,** Loyola Marymount University

Pankaj Jain, FLAME University

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Imagination, Intention, and Sacred Sustainability: Reimagining Dharma through Govardhan Ecovillage

Veena Howard, California State University, Fresno

Reimagining Sacred Animal Narratives: Can they Serve as Inspiration for Policies for Animal Care?

Raja Rosenhagen, California State University, Fresno
Bounded Intention and the Living Earth: Jain Ahiṃsā, Aparigraha, and Parasparopagraho Jīvānām

3:40-5:15 pm SESSION 3 (M20-304)

Theme: **Engaged Dharma: Indian Religious Principles in Theory and Practice Today**

Presider: **Stephanie Corigliano,** Cal Poly Humboldt

Justin Henry, University of South Florida
Jainism and Effective Altruism in Theory and Practice

Ithamar Theodor, Zefat Academic College
Gandhian Ideology on the Crossroads

Shivani Bothra, California State University, Long Beach
Engaged Spirituality: Jaipur Foot and the Institutionalization of Compassion

Gabrielle Sigrist, Loyola Marymount University
Digesting Grief: A Bio-Psycho-Philosophical Yoga Therapy Framework for Bereavement

5:30-6:45 pm SESSION 4 (M20-402)

Keynote Session and Reception

Presider: Veena Howard

***Theme*: "Reimagining our Sacred Stories: Present and Future"**

***Keynote Speaker*: Professor Judith Simmer-Brown,** Naropa University

Book Award Recipient:

***Provincializing Pluralism: Difference and Diversity in South Asian Traditions*, edited by Brian Black and James Madaio.**

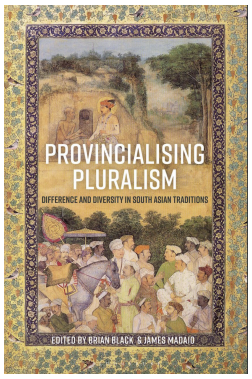
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Saturday, 21 November 2026

9:00-10:30 am SESSION 5 (M20-108)

DANAM Annual Book Review: *Provincializing Pluralism: Difference and Diversity in South Asian Traditions*, edited by Brian Black and James Madaio.



***Presider*: Kristin Scheible,** Reed College

Panelists:

Arti Dhand, University of Toronto

Oliver Freiberger, University of Texas, Austin

Loriliai Biernacki, University of Colorado, Boulder

Gil Ben-Herut, University of South Florida

Ana Laura Funes Maderey, Fairfield University

Laurie Patton, American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Amir Hussain, Loyola Marymount University

Respondents:

Brian Black, University of Edinburgh

James Madaio, Czech Academy of Sciences

Closing Remarks by Stephanie Corigliano and Veena Howard

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Gopal Gupta, Aurora University

DĀNAM is actively seeking new members for the Steering Committee. Please contact the chairs if you are interested in joining the DĀNAM leadership team.

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Jeffery Long, Elizabethtown College

Website Link: www.danam-web.org

Contact Information:
vehoward@mail.fresnostate.edu
stephanie.corigliano@gmail.com
sofiesmi@hawaii.edu