



Director: Nataraju Adarasupally, Centre for Philosophy, JNU, Delhi.

Organizing Committee: Rama Rao Pappu, Miami University, Ohio, Sukalyan Sengupta, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth; Bal Ram Singh, Institute of Advanced Sciences, Dartmouth; Raghavendra P. Singh, Centre for Philosophy, JNU; Girish Nath Jha, School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies, JNU; Vinay Rao, Special Centre for North East Studies, JNU; Bhagat Oinam, Centre for Philosophy, JNU; Phirmi Bodo, Centre for the Study of the Social Systems, JNU; Shubh Gupta, GAE, JNU and Nataraju Adarasupally, Centre for Philosophy, JNU.

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Papers/Abstracts to be sent to: vedantacongress2025@gmail.com

27TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEDĀNTA

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, NEW DELHI, INDIA

January 3-5, 2025

MODALITY: Offline

CALL FOR PAPERS

*The organizers invite Abstract and full-length Research Papers for oral/poster presentation to participate in the 27th International Congress of Vedānta to be held at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, from January 3-5, 2025. The **theme** of this conference is, “**Re-imagining Vedāntic World Order**”. As with past conferences, the aim is to get philosophers, scientists, educators, academia, researchers and scholar students to exchange and share their knowledge, new ideas, research results and experiences. All contributions should be of high quality, original and not published elsewhere or submitted for publication. All the papers will be reviewed by eminent scholars in the respective areas. Only selected papers will be presented in the Conference. In case the research article is accepted by the Editorial Committee, it will be published in an Edited Volume. Abstract submission by October 15, 2024.*

CONFERENCE HISTORY:

International Congress of Vedānta, founded in 1986 in the Department of Philosophy at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, USA, by Prof. Rama Rao Pappu is now located at the Center for Indic Studies, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, USA. The Vedanta Congress will continue to be the Program Planner for the future conferences but the organizational details of the conference will be handled in the Center for Indic Studies of University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, USA. In 2008, Jawaharlal Nehru University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with

University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Besides the exchange of Faculty and research scholars between the two Universities, it has also been agreed that the Congress of Vedanta will be held at Jawaharlal Nehru University every fourth year. The 23rd Vedanta Congress was held at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth in August 2017 and the 24th at Jawaharlal Nehru University in January 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 25th and 26th conferences were held online (zoom) and hosted by University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. The 27th Vedānta Congress will now be held from January 3-5, 2025 at JNU, Delhi.

International Congress of Vedānta has been the focal point for meeting of scholars specializing in all aspects of Indian philosophy especially Vedanta and philosophy of religion. In the past, the Congress has also celebrated the birth centennial of S. Radhakrishnan (1988), the 1200 anniversary of Sri Śankaracharya (1990), the centennial of Swami Vivekananda's sojourn to America and his participation in the World Parliament of Religions (1992), birth centennial of J. Krishnamurti (1995), and the 700 anniversary of *Sajeewa Samādhi* of Sri Jñāneswara (1996). International Vedānta Conferences were also held in Madras, Rishikesh, Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam in India and in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, in order to facilitate better interaction between scholars in India and the West.

Vedānta Congress welcomes delegates for presentation in the conferences research papers in all areas of Indian Philosophy and religions. Though the first Vedānta Conference began with a narrowly focused group for the study of Vedantic texts and their interpretation, the scope of the Vedānta Congress was expanded during the years to include (a) all major schools of Vedānta (Advaita, Viśiṣṭādvaita, Dvaita, Śuddhādvaita, etc.), Hindu, Buddhist and Jaina *Darśanas*, Epics, *Purāṇās* and *Dharma Śāstras*, (b) applied Indian philosophy, dealing with contemporary issues like abortion and euthanasia, war and peace, caste and race, karma and cloning and (c) Indian philosophical implications of recent developments in mathematics, life sciences, cognitive science, or what we call 'Indian Knowledge Systems'

The main theme of the 27th Congress is '**Re-imagining Vedāntic World Order**'

Sub-topics include: (but not exhaustive and an original research paper in any area of Indian philosophy is welcome, there will be sessions in Sanskrit as well)

Theme of the International Vedānta Congress—

“27th International Vedānta Congress-Re-imagining Vedāntic World Order”

(Introductory Paper, Objectives, Sub-topics, Participants and Important Dates to Remember)

Imagining (thinking) the constituents of 'Vedāntic World Order' is an ambitious project in itself. Thinking constitutes as well as manifests the phenomenal object. The object is independent of its appearance as existent, but expresses itself through contingent qualifiers. Knowledge of the Self is qualitatively different from the knowledge of the object (In the language of Krishnachandra), I am talking about Vedāntic World Order as a possible

phenomenal object.

There are different types of cognitive certainties, The primary certainty is about the actual, the objects of the secondary certainties are imagined. We are looking at the possibility of influencing world order based upon the traditional Vedāntic thinking as a secondary imagined certainty. The concept of an imagined object is an interesting field. Imagined object has a certitude. At the root of imagination is feeling and this is the art of our philosophical discussion on practical reason. The imagined object need not be non-existent. What I am trying to argue is that the imagined 'Vedāntic World Order' is only a felt certainty, is not illusory. It has a certainty, and that an imagined world order should exist. We would like the participants from across the world to delve deeper in to the nuances of creating a world order based on Indian thinking. Is there an Indian mind? This is an interesting question in itself. Is Indian mind distinct from a European mind, and if so, what does this difference mean to the global world order.

This Vedāntic World Order is not the knowledge of any specific object, but is an anticipation of object-in-general. This is different from our everyday knowledge of *Vyāvahārika Jagat*. There are forces that control the present world order in terms of Economic order, Polity, Science and Technology.

The Western mind builds narratives that are woven around their own welfare (*Pūrvapakṣa*). Unmindful of the harm they cause to the environment, animal world and fellow human beings. On the other hand, Vedāntic perspectives, broadly knowledge derived from the ancient Sanskrit literature in the form of the Upaniṣads and other classical texts, virtually encompasses all forms of life on Earth. While this knowledge is available to India, it's practical utility has not been fully realized. The reason being Indian does not control the world operational order. There are forces in the global order that have comprehensive control over the natural resources of the world, who use these resources for the fulfillment of their insatiable greed.

The conversations on Socio-economic matters, education, polity, finance, commerce are all conceived and implemented by the forces that control the world order. It's not important as to who controls the world order, what matters is: Is this thinking beneficial to global welfare? does this take in to account the welfare of plant life, animal world, and fellow human beings across the borders?

This Vedānta Congress has a tradition of hosting the best of minds in Indian Philosophy. Founded by Prof. Rama Rao Pappu who taught at Miami University, Ohio, USA for over four decades, this platform gave opportunity to all those involved in doing research in the areas of Indian Philosophical Schools to come under one roof and share their research.

Not only are we focusing on creating a world order grounded on 'Indian Thinking', but we are equally concerned about the state of affairs in Indian Philosophy. Re-imagining the future of Indian Philosophy is equally on our agenda for this congress. We are expecting greater participation and are focusing on attracting young minds. We plan to host around 100 research scholars from across Indian Universities and bring in the best of the faculty to share their original research and contemplate up on the future of Indian Philosophy.

Sub Topics of the conference.

01. **Original Research** Works from any of the Schools of Indian Philosophy
02. Āyurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy.
03. Imagining a Vedāntic World Order.
04. Indian Philosophy: **Past and Future**
05. The Role and Responsibility of an Indian Philosopher.
06. Indian Philosophical Methods and Their Interface with Social Sciences.
07. What is '**Indian**' About Indian Philosophy??
08. The Grounding (Adhiṣṭāna) of Indian Knowledge Systems on Indian Darśana Schools.
09. The Indian Philosophical Tradition
10. Tradition and Modernity.
11. **Consciousness Studies**, AI, Cognitive Science, and Contribution of Classical Indian Thinking.
12. Philosophy of the Body.
13. Philosophy and Literature.
14. Sanskrit and Indian Philosophy.
15. Sanskrit Grammar and Philosophy
16. Vedāntic Perspectives and Harmonious World through Education, Economics, and Governance
17. Fundamental narratives Created by the People who control Socio-political, Economic, Science and Technology fields.
18. Vedanta and Cross-Cultural Studies
19. Digital Libraries and Texts on Vedanta Tradition
20. Consciousness Studies: Vedānta, Buddhism, Kaśmiri Śaivism, and Contemporary Western Studies.
21. **The Pūrva Mīmāṃsa** and the Hermeneutic Tradition.

Abstract Submission: By October 15, 2024 Abstracts, not exceeding 300 words, either in English or Sanskrit (or any other Indian Language) on any of the above-listed themes or on any research area in Indian Philosophy should be sent latest by **October 15, 2024** to the Organizing Secretary through the e-mail: vedantacongress2025@gmail.com

Submission of Ful- Length Paper in 12 font size, MS WORD/PDF format

Once the Abstract gets accepted, full research paper not exceeding 4500-5000 words should be submitted latest by **November 30, 2024**, through email to: vedantacongress2025@gmail.com

The papers will be reviewed, and the decision of the reviewers will be communicated.

Certificate of presentation will be emailed to each author/presenter after the conclusion of the conference.

Note: No TA is admissible. Travel expenses have to be borne by the delegates to the congress. However, stay and food are taken care by the organizers from 2nd January Dinner to 5th January Dinner, 2025.

Venue: Convention Centre, JNU, Delhi.

Advisory Committee: Prof. Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, Vice Chancellor, JNU; Prof. Shrinivasa Varakhedi, VC., Central Sanskrit University; Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra, MS, ICPR; Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant, VC, Assam University; Prof. Geethakumari, VC, Sree Adi Śankarācharya Sānskrit University, Kalady; Sri Ashish Bhave, Centre for North East Studies, Prof. GSN Murti, IKS Division, AICTE; Prof. Satish Gharkote, JNU; Prof. Kaushal Kumar Sharma, JNU; Prof. Heeraman Tiwari, JNU; Prof. Brajesh Pandey, JNU; Prof. Ravi Shekhar, Director MMTTC, JNU.

All communication should be by e-mail/online only (no hard copy is required to be posted)

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