



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ACADEMIC STUDY OF RELIGION

Jointly organized by
The India Centre, FLAME University
and Wellesley College, USA



AUGUST 7-8, 2025



**FLAME UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS**



Swipe for
event details

DAY 1 **7TH AUGUST, 2025**
MORNING SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT DETAILS	SPEAKER
9:30 - 10:00	Inauguration and Opening Remarks	Dishan Kamdar Vice-Chancellor, FLAME University
10:30 - 12:30	Panel 1: Anthropological Approaches to Religion	Chair: Pankaj Jain FLAME University
10.30 - 11.00	Religion and Social Transformation in a Globalized World	Neelima Shukla-Bhatt Wellesley College
11.00 - 11.30	Shaligrams in a Dark Digital River: Decolonizing Ritual Practice Through the Online Exchange of Sacred Stones	Holly Walters Wellesley College
11.30 - 12.00	'There is no Caste in Islam': Social Hierarchy among Muslims in India	P.C. Saidalavi Shiv Nadar University
12.00 - 12.30	Questions and Answers	



DAY 1 **7TH AUGUST, 2025**
AFTERNOON SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT DETAILS	SPEAKER
14.00 - 16.30	Panel 2: Psychological and Philosophical Perspectives on Religion	Chair: Neelima Shukla-Bhatt Wellesley College
14.00 - 14.30	Freudian Psychoanalysis and Indian Psychology	Pankaj Jain FLAME University
14.30 - 15.00	Bhakti Beyond Religion: Fostering Hope Through Translation and Performance	Nitya Pawar Ashoka University
15.00 - 15.30	R. D. Ranade's Mystical Conception of Avatārahood	Pranav Ambardekar FLAME University
15.30 - 16.00	The Semiotics of the Nityāśoḍaśīkārṇava Tantra: A Performative Text or a Document of Cultural Memory?	Madhu Khanna Tantra Foundation, New Delhi
16.00 - 16.30	Questions and Answers	



DAY 2 **8TH AUGUST, 2025**
MORNING SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT DETAILS	SPEAKER
10.00 - 12.00	Panel 3: Philological and Textual Studies	Chair: Pranav Ambardekar FLAME University
10.00 - 10.30	Religious Studies and Interdisciplinarity: A Case Study in Islamic Cultural Studies	Louise Marlow Wellesley College
10.30 - 11.00	The Devotee's Dilemma: Surrender and Agency in Bhakti	R. Krishnaswamy Jindal Global University Tarinee Awasthi FLAME University
11.00 - 11.30	Gender Issues and Socio-centric Spirituality in Jain Tradition with reference to Acharya Chandana's Life	Shikha Sharma FLAME University
12.00 - 12.30	Questions and Answers	





DAY 2 **8TH AUGUST, 2025**

AFTERNOON SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT DETAILS	SPEAKER
13.30 - 15.30	Panel 4: Historical Studies of Religion	Chair: Madhu Khanna Tantra Foundation
13.30 - 14.00	Religious Studies and the Public Square: The Case of American Revolutionary Religion	Stephen A. Marini Wellesley College
14.00 - 14.30	Interreligious Studies in India: Engaging with Raimon Panikkar's Theology	Shruti Dixit University of St Andrews
14.30 - 15.00	Sisters as Ethnographers: Documenting Colonial India in the Loreto Schools	Alexandra Verini Ashoka University
15.00 - 15.30	Questions and Answers	
16.00 - 16.30	Concluding remarks	Pankaj Jain FLAME University Neelima Shukla-Bhatt Wellesley College

REGISTER NOW



LINK IN OUR BIO