9th Annual DANAM Conference 2011

DRAFT AGENDA

18–19 November 2011
San Francisco, California
9th Annual DANAM Conference 2011

Sponsored by

Dharma Academy of North America (DANAM)

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CONFERENCE THEME:
THE IDEALS AND PRACTICALITIES OF NONVIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE
IN DHARMA TRADITIONS

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18–19 November 2011

Location: Intercontinental Hotel
San Francisco, California

Held in conjunction with the
2011 American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting

9th 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

AGENDA

9th Annual DANAM Conference 2011 (DANAM11)
Intercontinental Hotel, San Francisco, CA
Meeting Hall: Grand Ballroom C and Sutter Room

18 November (8:30 am) — 19 November (1:00 pm) 2011

DANAM 2011 THEME

THE IDEALS AND PRACTICALITIES OF NONVIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE
IN DHARMA TRADITIONS

TOPICAL THEMES & SESSIONS

JAINISM – NONVIOLENCE, VIOLENCE AND THE FATE OF ANIMALS
HINDUISM – HINDU CONSTRUCTIVE THEOLOGY: ENGAGEMENT WITH VIOLENCE AND NONVIOLENCE
SIKHISM – THE PARADOX OF NONVIOLENCE AND THE PRACTICALITIES OF VIOLENCE
BUDDHISM – BUDDHIST APPROACHES TO NONVIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE IN HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS

BOOK REVIEW

LOCATION OF ACADEMIC SESSIONS

Intercontinental Hotel: Grand Ballroom C (Friday) and Sutter Room (Saturday)

Friday, 18 Nov 2011

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, 18 NOVEMBER 2011

9:00 – 9:05 a.m. Opening Remarks

9:05 – 11:00 am Session 1: Non-Violence and Violence in Dharma Traditions: Warriors, Ascetics, Animals, and Farmers
Convener and Presider: Kusumita Pedersen, St. Francis College, NYC

Koenraad Elst, Independent Scholar
   “From the Indo-European Warrior Bands to Modern Buddhist Involvement in War: the Martial Origins and Involvements of Shramanism”

Carl Olson, Allegheny College
   “The Conflicting Themes of Nonviolence and Violence in Ancient Indian Asceticism as Evident in the Practice of Fasting”

Christopher Key Chapple, Loyola Marymount University
   “Imitation, Reincarnation, and Compassion: Animals in Indic Traditions”

Whitney Sanford, University of Florida
   “Practicing Non-Violence through Food: Gandhi’s Agrarian Legacy in Contemporary Intentional Communities”

11:00 am – 1:00 pm Session 2: Violence and Non-Violence in Hindu Traditions
Convener and Presider: Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College, PA

T.S. Rukmani, Concordia University
   “From Violence to Non-Violence as Evidenced in the Mahabharata”

Veena Howard, University of Oregon
   “Animals’ Own Voices in Hindu Narratives: The Ideal of Nonviolence towards Living Beings”

Neela Bhattacharya Saxena, Nassau Community College
   “Are the fierce forms of the Mahadevi ‘Violent’? A Reading of the Chandi”

Purushottama Bilimoria, Deakin University and Melbourne University, Australia
   “The Threads of Gandhian Nonviolence in the African American Civil Rights Movement, 1893-1968”

Ramdas Lamb, University of Hawaii
   “Non-violence and Environmentalism in the Dharma Traditions”

2:00 – 4:00 pm Session 3: Animals, Non-Violence & the Jain Tradition
Convener and Presider: Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa, Canada

Smita Kothari, University of Toronto
   “The Terāpantha Doctrine of Non-interference – an Ethical and moral dilemma?”

Nika Kuchuk, University of Ottawa
   “Serpents in the Iconography of the Goddess Padmāvatī: A Comparative Study”

Bradley Boileau, University of Ottawa
   “‘Telling’ Animal Encounters: Defining Jaina Heroism through Human-Animal Interaction in Jaina Puranic Narrative”

Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa
   “Jainism’s Ontology of Kinship”
4:00 – 6:00 pm  **Session 4:** Sovereignty, Sacrifice, and the Sacred: Non-Violence and Violence in Sikh Dharma  
*Convener:* Arvind Mandair, University of Michigan  
*Presider:* Geetanjali Singh Chanda, Yale University

**Arvind Mandair,** University of Michigan  
“Mourning Sovereignty: Finitude and Sacred Violence in the Khalsa Narrative”

**Navdeep Singh Mandair,** University of Birmingham, UK  
“Squandered Souls: Rethinking the Sacrificial Idiom in Sikhism”

**Prabhsharandeep Singh,** Independent Scholar  
“(Non)violent (Wo)manhood in Sri Guru Granth Sahib”

**Balbinder S. Bhogal,** Hofstra University  
“To Be or Not To Be Violent – Modernity and Sikh Reticence”

**Michael Hawley,** Mount Royal University, Canada  
“Gandhi and the Sikhs”

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**SATURDAY, 19 NOVEMBER**

**8:30 – 10:30 am  Session 5:** Book Review of: Religion and the Specter of the West: Sikhism, India, Postcoloniality, and the Politics of Translation, by Arvind Mandair  
*Convener:* Phyllis Herman, California State University, Northridge  
*Presider:* Rita Sherma, Taksha University and ITBB

*Panelists:*  
**Purushottama Bilimoria,** UC Berkeley  
**Gerry Larson,** UC Santa Barbara  
**Joseph Prabhu,** California State Univ., Long Beach  
**Michael McLaughlin,** St. Leo University  
*Respondent:* Arvind Mandair, University of Michigan

**10:30 am – 1:00 pm  Session 6:** Bhakti and Yoga  
*Convener:* Graham M. Schweig, Christopher Newport University  
*Presider:* Brian Black, Lancaster University, UK

**Brian Black,** Lancaster University, UK  
“Yoga in the Upanishads”

**Graham M. Schweig,** Christopher Newport University  
“Yoga and Bhakti: Married or Divorced?”

**Barbara A. Holdrege,** University of California, Santa Barbara  
“**Krsna** Bhakti and Classical Yoga: The Gauḍīya Challenge to Patañjali”

**David L. Haberman,** Indiana University  
“The Place of Emotions in Yoga: Suppression or Expression?”

**Jonathan Edelmann,** Mississippi State University  
“By the Grace of God: Bhakti-Yoga as Unobtainable by Personal Effort”

**Ramdas Lamb,** University of Hawai`i  
“Yoga . . . for God’s Sake”

**Christopher Key Chapple,** Loyola Marymount University  
“California Dreaming: Bhakti Fest in Joshua Tree, 2011”

1:00 p.m.  **DANAM 2011 Adjourns**
Contacts For Further Information

For Conference Administration & Logistics:
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For Conference Program:
Dr. Adarsh Deepak, President, DANAM: a.deepak@taksha.org   Tel: 757-272-3066 cell

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

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Director, Institute for Theology Beyond Boundaries (ITBB), AZ

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Pat Deepak    Anjalee Sinha
Jyoti Gandhi   Meera Rao
Ravi Deepak

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Adarsh Deepak, Ph.D.
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Publisher of Journal for Vaishnava Studies (JVS),
and academic volumes in Dharma Studies.

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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 DANAM11 Conference and/or 2011 AAR Annual Meeting.

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