Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM)

6th DĀNAM Conference 2008

AGENDA

31 Oct (11:00am) – 1 Nov (3:00pm), 2008

Lake Ontario Room
Chicago Hilton Towers
720 S. Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, IL

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DHARMA SUSTAINS DIVERSITY

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6th DĀNAM Conference 2008

Sponsored by

Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM)

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CONFERENCE THEME:

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN CONSTRUCTIVE DHARMA

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31 Oct (11:00am) – 1 Nov (3:00pm), 2008

Lake Ontario Room
Chicago Hilton Towers
720 S. Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, IL

Held in conjunction with the 2008 AAR Annual Meeting

6th DĀNAM CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS:

Adarsh Deepak, Ph. D., Chairman, Taksha Institute & President, DĀNAM
Rita D. Sherma, Ph. D., Visiting Associate Professor, Binghamton University;
Academic Programs Director, DĀNAM; President, ITBB
PURPOSE of the CONFERENCE

To provide a Forum where scholars of Dharma Traditions and interested members of Dharma communities can engage in the examination of, and constructive approaches to, contemporary issues in the study of Dharma Traditions. While there are multiple scholarly arenas for presentation of new textual, sociological, anthropological, and historic approaches to the study of Indian cultural and religious traditions, there are few dedicated venues for discourse on, and the presentation of, constructive new 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.

DĀNAM Summary

DĀNAM (Dharma Association 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 distinguished scholars as Patron and Board of Distinguished Visiting Scholars (BDVS) drawn from various disciplines. DĀNAM is a sponsor of the peer-reviewed Journal of Vaishnava Studies, now in its sixteenth year, and the peer-reviewed Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma volumes, now in their fifth year.

Proceedings of DĀNAM Conference Sessions

AGENDA
6th DĀNAM Conference 2008 (DĀNAM08)
Chicago Hilton Towers, Chicago, IL
Lake Ontario Room

31 OCT (11:00am) - 1 NOV (3:00pm), 2008

THE SESSIONS

OPENING SESSION 11:00am – 11:10am
Welcoming and Administrative Remarks

I. M31-108 11:10 am - 1:00 pm 31 Oct
Conversion Issues in Christian and Dharma Traditions

II. M31-209 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm 31 Oct
Book Review: Review of Yoga Books

III. M31-309 4:30am - 6:30 pm 31 Oct
The "H-Word": Non-Indian Practitioners and the Question of Hindu Identity

IV. M1-6 8:30am - 10:15 am 1 Nov
Revisiting the Feminine in Dharma Traditions

V. M1-119 10:30 am - 12:30 pm 1 Nov
Hindu and Psychodynamic Self Psychologies: Revisioning Merger, Narcissism, and Psychospiritual Development

VI. M1-123 12:30pm - 1:30 pm 1 Nov
DĀNAM Business Meeting and Call for Papers

VII. M1-205 1:30pm - 3:00 pm 1 Nov
The Intersection of Religion & Culture in the Lived Tradition of Jainism

LOCATION OF ALL ACADEMIC SESSIONS
The Chicago Hilton Towers
Lake Ontario Room

Program Agenda

31 Oct 2008

10:30am: OPENS - DĀNAM08 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK. Participation at DĀNAM sessions at the AAR Annual Meetings is complimentary; there is NO FEE involved. To help us ensure conference sessions run smoothly, please register online, with contact information, at:

http://www.danam-web.org/registration_1.html

This information is strictly meant for planning purposes and to facilitate communications, especially in the unlikely event of any last minute changes in the agenda or schedule.
OPENING SESSION- Welcoming and Administrative Remarks
Co-Chairs: Adarsh Deepak, Taksha Institute
Rita D. Sherma, Binghamton University

M31-108 11:10am – 1:00pm 31 October 2008
Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session ICCDT
Theme: Issues of Conversion in Christian and Dharma Traditions
Organizer: Chad Bauman, Butler University
Presiding: Kusumita Pedersen, St. Francis College, NYC

Presenters:
Chad Bauman, Butler University
Does the Divine Physician Have an Unfair Advantage?

Francis X. Clooney, Harvard University
Theologizing Conversion: the 17th-18th Century Jesuit Example

Rita Sherma, ITBB & Taksha Institute
A Hindu Missiology?

Respondent: T. S. Rukmani, Concordia University, Canada

(For updates, continue to check at: www.danam-web.org/events.htm)

M31-209 2:00pm – 4:00pm 31 October 2008
Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session BR
Theme: Book Review: Review of Yoga Books
Organizer: Purushottama Billimoria, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia, and Jeff Long, Elizabethtown College
Presiding: Purushottama Billimoria, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia

Presenters:
Christopher K. Chapple, Loyola Marymount University
Edwin Bryant, Rutgers University
Andrew J. Nicholson, Stonybrook University
Mark Singleton, Doctoral Candidate, University of Cambridge

(For updates, continue to check at: www.danam-web.org/events.htm)

M31-309 4:30pm – 6:30pm 31 October 2008
Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session THW
Theme: The ‘H-Word’: Non-Indian Practitioners and the Question of Hindu Identity
Organizer: Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College
Presiding: Christopher Key Chapple, Loyola Marymount University
**Presenters:**

**Lola Williamson,** Millsaps University  
*When is a Hindu Not a Hindu? Why Followers of Three Hindu-Inspired Movements Do Not Identify as Hindu*

**Pankaj Jain,** North Carolina State University  
*‘The H-Word and the D-Word’: Hinduism and Dharma*

**Pravrajika Vrajapranā,** Vedanta Society  
*“Sorting It Out: Hindu Culture/Hindu Religion/ Hindu Identity or True Confessions of a (basically White) Hindu Nun”*

**Jeffery D. Long,** Elizabethtown College  
*Hindu–To Be or Not To Be: Three Possible Reasons for Aversion to the Term ‘Hindu’ among Western Practitioners*

**Suzanne Newcombe,** INFORM, based at London School of Economics and Political Science  
*Identification with Hinduism and the Politics of a Plural World*

**Respondent:** **Rita D. Sherma,** ITBB & Taksha Institute

(For updates, continue to check at: www.danam-web.org/events.htm)

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**M1-6  8:30 am - 10:15 am  1 November 2008**  
**Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session RFDT**  
Theme: **Revisiting the Feminine in Dharma Traditions**  
**Organizer:** **Phyllis Herman,** CalState University Northridge  
**Presiding:** **Phyllis Herman,** CalState University Northridge

**Presenters:**

**Deepak Shimkhada,** Claremont Mckenna College  
*Goma: the Girl Born of Cow Dung*

**David B. Gray,** Santa Clara University  
*Dākinīs and Ŷoginīs: On the Origin and Development of an Early Medieval Indian Buddhist Goddess Tradition*

**Veena Howard,** Lone College, University of Oregon  
*Gandhi’s Construction of Femininity: Negotiating Traditional Values for Modern Goals*

**Christopher K. Chapple,** Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles  
*The Goddess and Ecological Sensitivity: The Cultivation of Earth Knowledge*

**Sthaneshwar Timalsina,** San Diego State University  
*The Body of the Goddess: Eco-Awareness and Embodiment in Hindu Myth and Romance*

**Phyllis Herman,** California State University, Northridge  
*Sita Masala: From the Vedas to the Kitchen*
M1-119  10:30 am - 12:30 pm    1 November 2008
Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session HPSP
Theme: Hindu and Psychodynamic Self Psychologies: Revisioning Merger, Narcissism, and Psychospiritual Development
Organizer: Alfred Collins, Independent Scholar, Fairbanks, Alaska
Presiding: Sthaneswar Timalasina, San Diego State University

Presenters:
David P. Lawrence, University of North Dakota
The Psychology of the Tantric Self: Religious Metaphysics and the Transformations of Narcissism

Alfred Collins, Independent Scholar, Fairbanks, Alaska
Death and Transfiguration: Integrating Freud's Thanatos and Oceanic Narcissism through Samkhya-Yoga

Thomas B. Ellis, Appalachian State University
Merged in or Separated by Oceans: Object Relations Theory and the Hindu God Image

Travis Chilcott, University of California, Santa Barbara
Transitional Objects and Gaudiya Vaishnavism

Elaine Molchanov, North Pacific Institute of Analytical Psychology
Snake symbolism in Jungian psychoanalysis and Kundalini shakti in Siddha Yoga: Comparing the imaginal and transformative levels of a symbol

Respondent: Daniel Jonathan Meckel, St. Mary’s College of Maryland

M1-123  12:30 - 1:30 pm         1 November 2008
Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session (BMCP)
Theme: DĀNAM Business Meeting and Call for Papers (BMCP)
Organizer: Rita D. Sherma, Binghamton University and ITBB
Presiding: Jeffrey D. Long, Elizabethtown College

M1-205  1:30 pm – 3:00 pm    1 November 2008
Dharma Association of North America (DĀNAM) – Session JDP
Theme: The Intersection of Religion & Culture in the Lived Tradition of Jainism
Organizer: Anne Valley, University of Ottawa
Presiding: Stephen Quinian, University of Ottawa
Presenters:
Kyle Green, University of Ottawa
*Mahavira’s Unveiling: Inaccessibility and Schwartz’ God’s Phallus in Digambara Jain Iconography*

Ellen Gough, Yale University
*Jain Understandings of the Power of the Word: Interpretations of the Rṣi Māṇḍala Yantra*

Smita Kothari, University of Toronto
*Revival and Reform of Jaina Yoga – The Preksha Dhyana Movement*

Tom Pokinko, McGill University
*Some Contemporary Views on Jaina Values and Conduct Among Indian Lay Jaina-s from Jaipur and Delhi*

Andrea Jain, Rice University
*Health, Well-Being, and the Ascetic Ideal: Terapanthi Jainism in the Context of Late Capitalism*

Victoria Gibb, University of Ottawa
*‘The Coldest of all Religions’: Late British Colonial Interpretations of Jaina Dharma*

(For updates, continue to check at: www.danam-web.org/events.htm)

For Latest Updates of the Agenda, please continue to check the web site at:
www.danam-web.org/events.htm

**Contacts For Further Information**

For Conference Administration & Logistics:
Ms. Diana McQuestion, Conference Manager: d.mcquestion@taksha.org
Tel: 757-897-3745 cell

For Conference Program:
Dr. Adarsh Deepak, President, DĀNAM: a.deepak@taksha.org, 757-272-3066 cell

**CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

**STEERING COMMITTEE**
Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College, PA, Chair
Rita D. Sherma, Binghamton University
Arindam Chakrabarti, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Christopher K. Chapple, Loyola Mount University
Ramdas Lamb, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Graham M. Schweig, Christopher Newport University
Kusumita Pedersen, St. Francis College, NYC
Anne Vallely, University of Ottawa, Canada
DĀNAM ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD

The Academic Advisory Board of DĀNAM includes Professors Rita D. Sherma, Chair, (Binghamton University, NY, & Institute for Theology Beyond Boundaries, AZ), Arvind Sharma (McGill University), Arindam Chakrabarti, (University of Hawaii at Manoa), Christopher K. Chapple (Loyola Mount University, CA), Rita M. Gross (Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Bina Gupta (University of Missouri, Columbia), Subhash Kak (Oklahoma State University), Ramdas Lamb (University of Hawaii at Manoa), Jeffery D. Long (Elizabethtown College, PA), Kusumita Pedersen (St. Francis College, NYC), Anantanand Rambachan (St. Olaf College, MN), T. S. Rukmani (Concordia University, Canada), Graham M. Schweig (Christopher Newport University, VA), Shrinivas Tilak (Montreal, Canada), Ian Whicher (University of Manitoba, Canada)

CONFERENCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Diana McQuestion, Conference Manager

Dr. Pankaj Jain
Meera Rao
Anjalee Sinha

DĀNAM PRESIDENT

Dr. Adarsh Deepak, Ph. D.
Chairman, Taksha Institute;
Publisher of Deepak Heritage Books,
Journal for Vaishnava Studies (JVS),
and Academic Volumes in Dharma Studies

DĀNAM ACADEMIC PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Rita Dasgupta Sherma, Ph. D.
Chair, DĀNAM Board of Distinguished Visiting Scholars (BDVS);
Visiting Associate Professor, DP-AAS, Binghamton University, NY;
President, Institute for Theology Beyond Boundaries (ITBB), AZ
Executive Director, School of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Taksha Institute

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

General Co-Chairs:

Dr. Adarsh Deepak, President, DĀNAM and Chairman, Taksha Institute
Dr. Rajinder P. Gandhi, Chairman, DĀNAM

TRAVEL INFORMATION

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