 Strategic Retreat  
5th to 7th February 2015  

SVYASA UNIVERSITY  
Prashanti Kuteeram  
Bangalore  

Ekam Sad Viprah Bahudha Vadanti
Date: Thursday, February 5th 2015

- 3:00 pm to 4.00 pm - Registration
- 4:00 pm to 4:50 pm – Tea, Snacks, Socialization & Networking

Inauguration: (5.00 – 6.00 pm)

- Sri Sankrant Sanu, A brief Introduction (5 mins)
- Lighting the lamp
- Dr. H R Nagendra, Chancellor, SVYASA, Bangalore - Welcome (5 min)
- Dr. Venkatrangan, Vice Chancellor, Amrita University (10 min)
- His Holiness Sri Sri Ravishankar, Founder, AOL – Inaugural address (40 mins)

- 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm – Dinner

First Session: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm – Plenary Sessions

Introduction to the Meet- Dr. Manohar Shinde, Retired Psychiatrist & Chairman Emeritus, DCF (10 mins)

PART I: 7:10 – 8.00 pm

“A response to the Western Critique of Indic Civilization & Dharmic paradigm”

Chairperson – Prof. Ved Nanda, former Vice Provost, University of Denver, Board of Trustee, DCF

- Prof. Kapil Kapoor, former Pro - Vice Chancellor, JNU, New Delhi (Main Speaker 35 mins)
- Dr. Devapriya Roy, Freelance writer & Intellectual Activist, New Delhi (Respondent - 10 mins)

PART II: 8:00 to 9:00 pm

“A Strategic Civilizational framework and orientation to research and scholarly output”

- Shri S Gurumurthy, Journalist, Industry consultant & civilizational thinker, Chennai (Main Speaker 35 mins)
- Prof. R Vaidyanathan, Professor IIM, Bangalore. (Respondent - 15 mins)
- Discussion (10 mins)

9:00 to 10:00 pm - Informal interactions & networking
Date: Friday, February 6th 2015:

❖ 6:15 am to 7:00 am – Yoga & Meditation (Optional) - Shri N V Raghuram, President Yoga Bharati & DISHA
❖ 7:00 am to 7:50 am – Breakfast

Second session - 8:00 am to 10:00 am

PART I: “India’s intellectual traditions” 8.00 am – 9.00 am

Chairperson: Dr. Ushakant Thakkar, President, DCF & leading nephrologist, Los Angeles, and Chairman, DCF

Panelists:

Prof. Jagbir Singh, Professor, University of Delhi, Life Fellow, Punjab University, Patiala (20 mins)
Prof. Rajnish Mishra, Associate Professor, JNU, New Delhi (10 mins)
Shri Michel Danino, Historian, Educator, Writer, Coimbatore (10 mins)
Discussion (20 mins)

PART II: “A critique of the Western paradigm from the Dharma perspective” 9.00 – 10.00 am

Chair: Shri Michel Danino, Historian, Educator, Writer, Coimbatore

Panelists:

Prof. Balagangadhara Rao, Director, India Platform, Ghent University, Belgium (25 mins)
Dr. Koenraad Elst, Independent scholar on Indic Civilization (15 mins)
Dr. Chaitra, Founder-Director, AAROHI, Bangalore (Respondent – 10mins)
Discussion (10 mins)

❖ 10:00 to 10:25 am – TEA BREAK
Third Session - 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

“Challenges & opportunities to the academic and intellectual study of India, Indic Civilization & Dharma traditions”

❖ PART I: In The Western Context - 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Moderator – Sri Kalyan Vishvanathan, Executive Vice President, DCF, Dallas, US

Panelists:

Prof. T. S. Rukmani, Professor Emeritus, Hindu Studies, Concordia University, Montreal (20 mins)
Dr. Abhishek Ghosh, postdoctoral fellow, PA (20 mins)
Discussion (20 mins)

❖ PART II: In the Indian Context 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Chairperson – Prof. Kapil Kapoor, former Pro - Vice Chancellor, JNU, New Delhi

Panelists:

Prof. Jagbir Singh, Professor, University of Delhi, Life Fellow, Punjab University, Patiala (20 mins)
Dr. Anirban Ganguly, Director, SPMRF, New Delhi (20 mins)
Discussion (20 mins)

❖ 12:30 pm to 1:50 pm – LUNCH

Fourth Session - 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

“Applied and Engaged Dharma”

Chairperson – Sri Tarun Vijay, MP, Rajya Sabha

❖ PART I: “Dharma & Science” (2.00 – 3.00 pm)

Panelists:

Dr. C K Raju, Prof. of History & Philosophy of Science, Indonesia (40 mins)
Shri Shraddhalu Ranade, Educationist, Pondicherry (respondent, 10 mins)
Discussion (10 mins)
PART II: “Dharma & Management” (3.00 – 3.30 pm)

Panelists:
Prof. Mahadevan, Professor, IIM, Bangalore (8 mins)
Prof. Satish Modh, management Professor, Mumbai
Swami Bodhananda, Founder, SAMBODH Society, Michigan (8 mins)

PART III: “Dharma & Economics” (3.30 – 4.00 pm)

Panelists:
Prof. Varadarajan, Professor of Economics, Madras University (8 mins)
Prof. Kanagasabhapati, Professor of Management, Coimbatore (8 mins)
Dr. Sachin Nandha, Entrepreneur & Educationist, UK (8 mins)
Discussion (10 mins)

4:00 pm to 4:20 pm – TEA BREAK

Fifth Session - 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Chairperson – Prof. K. Subramanyam, Dean, SVYASA

“Applied & Engaged Dharma” Continued

PART I: “Janabhasha & Janachetana” (4.30 – 5.00 pm)

Panelists:
Shri Sankrant Sanu, Independent Scholar, Seattle, WA (15 mins)
Prof. M D Srinivasan, Retired Professor, Madras University; Co-Director, Center for Policy Studies (CPS), Chennai. (10 mins)
Discussion (5 mins)

PART II: “Dharma & Art / Aesthetics” (5.00 – 5.30 pm)

Panelists:
Prof. Bharat Gupt, Professor, Delhi University (15 mins)
Prof. Avadesh Kumar Singh, Former Vice Chancellor & Professor at School of Translation Studies IGNOU, New Delhi (15 mins)
PART III: “Dharma & Indian Psychology” (5.30 – 6.00 pm)

Chairperson - Shri N V Raghuram, Founder-Director, Yoga Bharati, USA

Panelists:  
Prof. Anand Paranjpe, Professor Emeritus in Psychology, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada (Main Speaker 15 mins)  
Prof. Suneet Varma, Associate Professor of Psychology, Delhi University (Speaker 10 mins)  
Dr. Vinayachandra B. K. & Dr. Anuradha Choudry, Fellow at Development Foundation, Bangalore (5 mins)

PART IV: “Dharma & Education” (6.00 – 6.45 pm)

Chairperson – Shri Shraddhalu Ranade, Educationist, Pondicherry

Panelists:  
Dr. Ramachandra G Bhat, Vice Chancellor, SVYASA, Bangalore (10 mins)  
Dr. Vasant Joshi, Former Vice Chancellor, OSHO Multiversity (10 mins)  
Dr. Venkatram, Dean, Engineering College, Bangalore (10 mins)  
Discussion (15 mins)

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm – DINNER

8:00 pm to 10:00 pm – Informal interactions & networking

Date: Saturday, February 7th 2015

6:15 to 7:00 am – Yoga & Meditation (Optional) – Shri N V Raghuram

7:00 am to 7:50 am – BREAKFAST
Sixth Session - 8:00 am to 10:00 am

“Innovative initiatives in academic, intellectual and civilizational entrepreneurship”

Chairpersons: Prof. Anand Bulusu, Associate professor, IIT Roorkee
Dr. Ram Vaidya, International Co-ordinator, HSS, UK

Panelists: (10 mins per speaker)

- Dharma Civilization Foundation (DCF) – Shri Kalyan Viswanathan, Executive Vice President, DCF, Dallas, TX
- International Center for Cultural Studies (ICCS) – Prof. Yashwant Pathak, Associate dean, University of South Florida & Dr. Shekhar Patel, President, ICCS-USA chapter
- Innovative programs in Vedic Sciences & environmental studies at Maharishi University of Management (MUM), Fairfield, Iowa – Prof. William Goldstein, Dean
- SVYASA – Dr. N K Manjunath Sharma, Jt. Director, R & D, SVYASA
- ISKCON Chowpatty Mumbai – Proposed Vedic College in Mumbai – Shri Gauranga Prabhu/Dr. Krishna Abhishek
- Vision India Foundation – Shri Sahil Agrawal, Executive director, VIF
- Amritadarshanam (Amrita University’s Center for study of Spirituality & Sanatan Dharma) – Dr. Upadhyayalu K V Sarma, Coordinator
- India Platform at Ghent University, Belgium & Aarohi in Karnataka – Dr. Chaitra
- Veda Vijnana Gurukulam/Shodha Samsthanam - Dr. Jayaraman, Faculty

❖ 10:00 am to 10:20 am – TEA BREAK

❖ Seventh Session - 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

A bird’s eye view on different intellectually-oriented institutions: Presentations

Chairperson - Shri Saumitra Gokhale, Samyojak, Overseas RSS, NJ, USA

Panelists: (5 mins per speaker)

1. Development Foundation – Shri M P Kumar, Entrepreneur, Founder of DF
2. Center for Policy Studies – Prof. M D Srinivasan, Co-director
3. Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal – Shri Mukul Kanitkar, National Secretary
4. India Inspires Foundation – Shri Harshit Jain, Chairman

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5. World Association for Vedic Studies (WAVES) – **Prof. Balram Singh**, Professor, Boston, MA
6. Nivedita Academy – **Sadhu Rangarajan**, Founder
7. Bharat Gyan – Project of AOL, **D. K. Hari**
8. Swastik (Swadeshi School for training in Indian Knowledge) – **Shri Sandeep Singh**, Chairman
9. India Facts, **Sh Sandeep Balakrishna**
10. SANDHI – **Prof. Joy Sen**, IIT Kharagpur

❖ **Eighth Session - 12:00 to 1:00 pm**

Feedback and Blueprint for Future Action
Concluding Remarks

❖ 1.00 pm – LUNCH

❖ 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Post conference meet with institutional representatives, to explore collaborations, partnerships & strategic next steps