



Special Issue
on
First Asian Philosophy Congress



Deepa-Prajvalana



Indian Council of Philosophical Research
Darshan Bhawan
36 Tughlakabad Institutional Area
New Delhi - 110062



**Chairman, ICPR felicitating Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, MP at the
First Asian Philosophy Congress**



The ICPR staff at the Grand Finale of the validation of the Asian Philosophy Congress

The successful completion of the First Asian Philosophy Congress has definitely opened a new chapter in the arena of Asian philosophy for those who are actively engaged in the promotion of philosophy, history and culture of Asia. The Congress brought about a consciousness of, and a new platform for, Asian Philosophy. It is for the first time that the community of philosophers in Asia and other parts of the world deliberated on the identity and exclusiveness of Asian thinking which has been systematically stamped by the West as religion, anthropology and such other sundry stuff so far. We at ICPR are very glad that it is not going to be that way any more and Asian philosophy and culture will come to occupy their due place of prominence in the world very soon.

It is simply a matter of great regret that often Asian thinking is depicted in the West as no philosophy at all. We may partly be blamed for not being able to portray our philosophy in the right perspective so as to make it available to others in a philosophical format to be understood by all. Doing so would help realize the value as well as the complexity that are involved and remain hidden in the thought structures which have

been the foundations of the theorization and practice in Asia for thousands of years. Its non-disclosure may be due to a communication gap, it may be a gap in the logical adequacy, or it may be a cultural gap, but with globalization all such gaps created by the non-understanding of the other, should vanish and the marginalized thought-structures must look forward to coming into proper focus.

In many ways, the Asian Philosophy Congress created a new forum to address the above issues and to create a niche for Asian thought and it was, for all participants, an exciting welcome and was a special moment of pride for us at ICPR. Building on the model of a world class venture to promote philosophy in general and that of Asia in particular, the Congress was designed to showcase Asia's all round strides and with restructured models that will bring "unity of thinking" among the nations interacting with one another's thought, it may well fashion Asia into the other philosophical giant.

With Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan at the inauguration and Dr. Karan Singh at the valedictory of the Congress, there were 763 participants including 75 persons from abroad who presented papers. A remarkable feature of this event is the collaborative participation of FISP

and their President, Professor William McBride who not only welcomed the deliberations enthusiastically, attended all the important sessions but also greatly enhanced the prestige of the Congress and enriched it with a special round table sponsored by them.

With such enthusiastic participation and success, we at ICPR are looking forward with excitement and optimism to make the Asian Philosophy Congress an international philosophical body with its own unique character and place among the philosophical bodies of the world. We are glad that our Chairman Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, who was the chief architect of the very First Congress which was held recently, is elected as the President of the Asian Philosophy Congress which will meet once in two years in different parts of Asia. Professor Rao is busy with making plans for the new organization; and I know he welcomes all your inputs to make it a vibrant and dynamic body.

I thank all my colleagues from ICPR and JNU who spared no pains to make this Congress a grand success, with my special mention highlighting the hard work put in by Sreekumaran, Mohinder Chopra and Sunil Sabharwal who most readily took upon themselves a large chunk of responsibilities to make this event a truly successful one.

A piece of good news for the Academic Centre, Lucknow: Dr. Mercy Helen, Director (Planning and Research) has finally joined duty at the Academic Centre. With her joining, I hope the activities at the Academic Centre will be more vibrant and we would be able to reach out with all our programmes and be able to be of maximum help with our new library collections to all those interested in philosophy. ICPR is in the process of implementing a plan from the next academic year with full accountability and transparency in administration. The focus will increasingly also be on providing seamless services along with a diversity of programmes for the promotion of philosophical research in the country.

I believe that it is the confidence which the academics and research scholars including Junior Research Fellows have reposed in ICPR that keeps us striving continuously to meet the expectations and goals of our own as well as those of the entire Indian philosophical community. I hope to come back to you with new programmes and prospects with the new academic year that will start from April 2010.



G. Mishra
Member Secretary



ICPR Staff at Registration Counter of First Asian Philosophy Congress

Asian Philosophies in Search of Identity



Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao during the First Asian Philosophy Congress

I am happy that India is hosting the 1st Asian Philosophy Congress and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research has taken the initiative to sponsor and organize it with the active support and participation of a number of sister organizations in the country. During many years of my professional career, I had numerous occasions to attend international conferences in Europe and America and more recently in Asia. Invariably, with very few exceptions indeed, did I ever experience my identity as an Indian or Asian thinker at these forums even when a conference was held in Asia. I say this because most international academic forums are deeply Western, colored in their deliberations by Western concepts, categories, methods and models. There is of course constant talk about pluralism and inter-culturalism at these forums; but that pluralism reflects and refers only to the divisions and differences analogous to those in Western thought. The Eastern thought systems and categories of understanding used in them seldom find their way in the discussions. What we have at these forums is a cultural amalgamation and not a mosaic of

different traditions. In other words, what we find here is that the dominant Western identity takes the form of global identity.

My participation in the international forums is successful to the extent that I was able to use my Western learning. I am persuaded that this kind of globalization hurts healthy philosophical exchanges needed between different traditions and thus is likely to be counterproductive. I believe, there is an urgent need for correction if these world forums were to be truly international in spirit, intent and practice. I am not saying this in any narrow, chauvinistic sense to belittle the present Western dominance, but to highlight its negative effects on the creative contribution of philosophers coming from non-Western traditions. I believe the establishment of the Asian Philosophy Congress and the organization of this conference are important steps in moving in the direction of not only finding an identity for Asian philosophies but also asserting it in all international forums.

It is in the larger interests of global organizations that they mirror diversity. The unity or identity of a group

can be built to last only on the solid foundation that recognizes and reflects the diversity of its members. The situation gets complicated when there is a pyramidal hierarchy of organizations involved. As I see it, the problem in philosophy is that we have national organizations and the International Federation. The distance between national level organizations and the international forums is too far and wide to permit the formation of a composite mosaic of philosophies. There is need for an identity broader than national and narrower than the global philosophical identity, which could be a bridge between the national and international forums. The Asian Philosophy Congress could work toward promoting such regional and transnational identities.

Now, one may raise the question whether there is any philosophically meaningful sense in which we can understand regional philosophical identities. We may speak of different philosophical traditions like idealism and realism, pragmatism and positivism, absolutism and pluralism. How can regional identities like Australian philosophy and Asian philosophy be philosophically meaningful, even though they may make some geographical sense? Philosophy as a discipline should be universal like physics. There cannot be Indian physics or Asian physics. So goes the argument. I humbly disagree.

Perhaps, there could be a perennial philosophy in some sacred sense. However, in real life and practice, I believe, philosophy, like most other social disciplines, is contextual. I share the view that philosophies are characteristic ways of reacting to the problems of the world confronting and agitating the human mind. "Universal philosophy," whatever that might mean, cannot be contained in a common intellectual capsule inasmuch as philosophy can hardly be studied outside of its social and cultural moorings and current contexts. Therefore, the focus of philosophical attention may not be on the consideration of concepts and categories, dialectics and dialogues in a cultural vacuum. Trivial discussion on imaginary issues does

little to advance wisdom. Rather the fulcrum of our pursuits and the centrality of our themes may be such that they revolve around the practical problems and actual operations, the existential predicament of inexorable longings of people divided in numerous ways, the ubiquitous problems and challenges and the unending search for remedies. The perennial problem of philosophy is its relevance to life and not its isolation from it. I am persuaded that Asian philosophies form the early beginnings have espoused this notion.

From our perspective, philosophy cannot originate in a cultural vacuum. Philosophy has a practice and applied dimension that is often ignored by arm-chair philosophers. Applied philosophies are necessarily contextual, and not isolated but interdisciplinary. Again, this is the hallmark of wisdom as distinguished from knowledge. Also, philosophy may be seen as the running thread that weaves the cultural fabric. In a significant sense it is what gives identity and distinctiveness to a tradition. During the years of colonial dominance in many countries of Asia, knowledge was cut loose from the native traditions and this resulted in an identity crisis in all culture-bound disciplines; and philosophy was no exception.

I can speak with some conviction that philosophy in India since the colonial period has suffered an identity crisis and is still reeling from its effects. Indian philosophy has from classical times had its own identity. Philosophy in India is applied in a large measure since Vedic times and it is nurtured by interdisciplinary involvement.

Because of its avowed involvement with life, Indian philosophy grew along with religion, science and other human endeavors. So we find that Hindu scriptures like the *Vedas* and the *Bhagavad Gītā* are rich sources of classical Indian philosophy. Again, valuable philosophical ideas are embedded in medical texts like *Caraka Samhitā*, political-economic treatises like Kautilya's *Artha Śāstra*, legal codes like Jaimini's *Dharma Śāstra*, the art books like Bharata's *Nāṭya-Śāstra* and

Vātsyāyana's *Kāma-Sūtra* and psychological thought and practices as in Patañjali's *Yoga-Sūtra*. Philosophy in India has been truly a wisdom discipline. Wisdom is knowledge applied to life.

This tradition of philosophy as wisdom to be cultivated continued unabated until British education found its way into Indian universities and colleges during the colonial rule. It is the Western influence that brought about the identity crisis among Indian philosophers. Some have weathered the Western influence by meekly and reverentially accepting the old and the traditional while some others abandoned the native identity altogether and embraced uncritically Western concepts and categories. However, the vast majority of those pursuing philosophy could not meaningfully relate themselves either to the old classical thought in the changed circumstances or the new, borrowed Western thought. Thus, under the shadow of Western influence, philosophy in India suffered some kind of an eclipse and most Indian philosophers lost their identity.

If there is any original thought of any consequence during this period it originated with few exceptions outside the academia in the writings and actions of thinkers like Sri Aurobindo, M.N. Roy and Mahatma Gandhi. Again, philosophical ideas have emerged in their work in an applied format and have grown in an interdisciplinary context to improve human condition. Sri Aurobindo who began as a political rebel and revolutionary turned a saint. By blending Vedānta and Sāṃkhya-Yoga, he evolved a model of the man that laid the foundation for what is now rightly called Indian psychology. In other words, we find in Sri Aurobindo a consummate application of classical Indian thought to contemporary psychological topics. The most recent celebrity Indian philosopher is Amartya Sen whose thought has grown out of the main discipline of economics and at the same time profoundly impacting thinkers of diverse hues in the country. Again his ideas have interdisciplinary and applied relevance.

I have reason to think that what is true of India is true of several other countries in Asia. Philosophies in Asia would have little to celebrate as making creative contributions in advancing philosophical wisdom unless they regain their lost identities. It is my hope that conferences like this would help not only to find our own native identities as philosophers, but also help develop a meaningful mosaic of common Asian identity, which in its turn would lead to the emergence of a truly global forum for philosophers in which the multiple regional identities are seen both as distinctive and homogeneous.

However, we need to say a word of caution. Just as the international forums become dysfunctional in proportion to the degree of their failure to display the diversity of the constituent members, so would this Asian Philosophy Congress lose its significance if it became stratified by a single tradition, however intellectually rich and stimulating that tradition might be. Therefore, I hope that the Asian Philosophy Congress would evolve itself to be a true intellectual mosaic depicting the idiom and themes of all the constituting traditions. It is heartening that we have amidst us Western scholars deeply involved in disseminating Asian thought globally and in some significant ways enriching it. To appreciate, value and even advance Asian philosophies one does not have to be born or be living in Asia. The contributions of Dr. Karl Potter, for example, surpass those of several of us in showcasing Asian contributions in general and Indian contributions in particular as rich philosophical heritage of humankind.

On behalf of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research and the other host organizations and on my own behalf I extend a warm welcome and wish all of you happy and memorable stay in Delhi and productive participation in the Congress. I am myself looking forward to a week of rich interpersonal philosophical engagement and an interesting intercultural dialogue of Asian thinkers in search of identity.

Farewell to Shri Shyamal Kumar Sen



Sh. S.K. Sen (center) with his wife on the occasion of his retirement farewell at Darshan Bhawan, ICPR, New Delhi

Shri Shyamal Kumar Sen joined ICPR office in 1989 and retired from service in 2009. Shri Sen has rendered valuable services to ICPR Academic Centre, Lucknow as well as Headquarter office in New Delhi. He served ICPR in different capacities and retired as Superintendent (Administration & Finance) on November 30, 2009.

In recognition of the valuable services rendered by Shri Sen, a fond farewell was organized at Delhi

ICPR Office. Shri Sen was felicitated with a shawl by Professor G. Mishra, Member Secretary, and a token gift by the ICPR staff.

We are glad to say that as per the convention started in the ICPR by the present Member Secretary, Professor G. Mishra, all the retirement benefit and dues were disbursed to Shri Sen during the felicitation Session on November 30, 2009 itself.



ICPR Publication at display during Conference

FIRST ASIAN PHILOSOPHY CONGRESS

Inauguration of a Forum for Philosophy and Philosophers in Asia
Venue: Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India
March 6-9, 2010



Inaugural function of the First Asian Philosophy Congress

With the imaginative initiative of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, and with academic and financial collaborations of several sister organizations and other institutions interested in philosophy, the concept of creating a Forum for Asian Philosophy and Philosophers, was actualized in the maiden meeting of the Congress held during March 6-9, 2010. The inauguration of this mega event took place with an assembly of more than 700 philosophers and academicians from all over the world at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, on 6th March 2010 at 3 p.m. The inaugural function was chaired by Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman, ICPR, who conceived this idea to have the Congress of this scale. Professor R. Kumar, Rector, JNU, welcomed the gathering after the Vedic prayer rendered by Professor Sashiprabha Kumar. The felicitations for the Congress were conveyed by Professors William McBride, Marietta Stepanyants, Karl Potter, Sabyasachi Bhattacharya

and Javed Alam who not only highlighted the need for creating a forum for the philosophies in Asia but also emphasised the variety and diversity of traditions of Asian thinking. Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, the renowned scholar-parliamentarian of the country, delivered the inaugural address and Professor G. Mishra, Member-Secretary, ICPR, proposed the vote of thanks.

The well-designed, topically organized Congress was held in a large number of sessions consisting of Plenaries, Symposia, Round Tables, Special Lectures and Sectional presentations. Professor William McBride Chaired the first Plenary session entitled, "Asian Mind: Affinities and Diversities". Professor Charles Muller [Wonhyo's Approaches to the "Commensuration" (hwajaeng) of Doctrinal Discrepancies], Professor Arindam Chakraborty ["Understanding Other Living Beings: Zaungzi, Dharmakirti and Abhinavagupta on Other Minds"], Professor Douglas Allen, USA, [Asian

Philosophies in Times of Globalization] and Dr. Alex Wynne, UK, [“Is there an Early Buddhist Philosophy?”] presented their papers followed by very lively discussion by the participants.

The second day started with the second Plenary on the topic “Traditions of Thinking: Asian Philosophical Identity” and was chaired by Professor Srinivasa Rao, with the speakers Professors Marietta Stepanyants, Moscow, [Asian Values to a Multi-polar World], Chirapat Prapandvidya, Thailand, [Phana, the Gnostic Poetry of the North-Eastern Thai: its Philosophical Implication of Buddhism and Brahmanism], Asanga Tilakaratne, Sri Lanka, [In What sense Buddhist Philosophy is Philosophy?] and Arvind Sharma, Canada, [The Asian Concept of Religion and its Implication for Religious Freedom in the Modern World].

The topic for the third Plenary (on 8th March 2010) was “Philosophy and Religion: East and West” and it was chaired by renowned Russian Indologist Professor Marietta Stepanyants, Moscow. Speakers who participated in this programme were Professors William L. McBride, President, FISP, USA [Philosophy and Religious Beliefs: Is There a Boundary?], Professor Victoria

FISP, Italy also participated as a special speaker in this session.

The theme of the fourth Plenary was “Indian Philosophy: Retrospect and Prospects.” Chaired by Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, the session had very eminent speakers such as Professors Karl Potter, USA: [The Meaning of “Indian Philosophy” and The Encyclopaedia of Indian Philosophies]; T.S. Rukmani, Canada: [The Sannyasasrama in Hinduism: Retrospect and Prospects]; Srinivasa Rao, [What was, Is and Should be of Values in India?] and G.C. Nayak, [“Sunyata, Nirvana and Mahakaruna – An Assessment”].

Besides Plenaries, there were three Symposia programmed for the Congress. The first Symposium “Vedanta in the New Millennium” was chaired by Professor Rama Rao Pappu, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Swami Paramananda Bharati: [The Psychic Experience of the Cause of the Universe]; Swami Prasanna Venkatachariar Chaturvedi Swami: [Ramanuja: His Contribution to Indian philosophy and Culture]; Sri Atmachaitanya, USA: [Swami Satchidanandendra’s Contribution to Advaita Vedanta]; Professor Srivatsa Goswami: [Prema-Bhakti Vedanta of Sri Caitanya] and Dr. Emmamuel Uppamthadathil: [Theory of Causality: A Tool for Unfolding Indian Metaphysics] presented their papers.

Professor Mrinal Miri chaired Symposium II on the topic ‘Facets of Indian Philosophy’ and speakers who participated were Professor Ramakrishna Bhattacharya, [The Social Outlook of the Charvaka/ Lokayata: A Reconstruction]; Professor R. Gopalakrishnan, [The Twice-Born Soul and Its States of Limitation and Liberation—Saiva Siddhanta Perspective]; Dr. Lara Mitias, Cairo: [Dualisms East and West: Resolving Cartesian Problems with the Insights of Samkhya Yoga];

Professor Tandra Patnaik, [God as Sunya: A Study of Baudha-Vaisnavism of Odisha] and Dr. Bindu Puri, [Swaraj and Satyagraha in Gandhi.]

The third Symposium was devoted to the traditional philosophical deliberations and it was held entirely in



Professor Marietta Stepanyants, Moscow, Chairperson of the session on Philosophy & Religion: East & West

Lysenko, Moscow: [Relation between Philosophy and Religion in India: Overcoming the Eurocentric Stereotypes], Vladimir K. Shokhin, Moscow: [Comparative Philosophical Theology and Shankara’s Conception of Evil]. Dr. Luca Scarantino, Secretary General,

Sanskrit. Sponsored by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, and chaired by Professor R.V. Tripathi, the highlighted topic was: “India’s Intellectual Tradition: Pandit Parishad”. Professor Tripathi spoke on “Aesthetics Tradition in India” which was followed by other prominent speakers such as Dr. Prahlada Char, [Intellectual Tradition in Nyaya in the last Millennium]; Dr. Lakshmi Tatacharya, [Visistadvaita as a Living Tradition”] and Dr. Ramanuja Devanathan, [The Philosophy of Grammar in the Indian Tradition]. This session also witnessed a huge gathering and was attended by many scholars from abroad who came to hear spoken philosophical Sanskrit which still very much exists in India.

The six Panels to discuss different issues on Asian Philosophy were one of the major highlights of the Congress. The Panel I on “Anekantavada (Non-absolutism): A Philosophy of Peaceful Co-existence” was sponsored by Jain Vishva Bharati University, Ladnun, and was chaired by Samani Dr. Mangalprajna. The eminent speakers on this panel were: Dr. M.R. Gelra, [A New Dimension Dealing with the Applications of Anekanta]; Dr. D.N. Bhargava, [Anekanta as the Basis of Reconciliation at the Mental Level]; Dr. S.L. Gandhi, [Anekanta as a

Roadmap to Universal Peace]; Professor S.R. Bhatt, [Holistic Approach to Reality and Life in Jain Philosophy] and Professor A. K. Mookerjee, [Anekantavada : An Answer to Cultural Conflict].

The second Panel discussion was devoted to “Perspectives of Indian Philosophy: Western and Non-Western.” Sponsored by PHISPC and chaired by Professor Bhuvan Chandel, New Delhi, the speakers on this Panel were Professors S.P. Gautam, S. Panneerselvam, Subhada Joshi, R.C. Pradhan, and Bhagat Oinam.



Dr. Marina Faetanini, UNESCO speaking on UNESCO & Philosophy at the Panel Discussion on Science and Philosophy chaired by Dr. Ranjit Nair



Panel discussion on Anekantavada by Jain Viswa Bharati University

Professor Ranjit Nair chaired the third Panel discussion on “Science and Philosophy: Alliance for Developing Education”. The discussants included Dr. Ananta Kumar Giri, [Learning the Art of Wholeness: New Horizons of Theory and Practice] and Dr. Marina Faetanini, of the UNESCO office in Delhi who spoke on UNESCO and Philosophy.

Philosophy of Islam was the topic for the fourth Panel discussion. Chaired by Professor Ghazala Irfan, the panel had the following discussants: Dr. Shahram Pazouki,



Professor Ghazala Irfan Chairing the Panel Discussion on Philosophy of Islam

Iran: [Mulla Sadra's Philosophy: An Eastern Solution]; Seyed Hassan Hosseini, Iran: [Faith and Truth, Two Philosophical Approaches towards the Problem of Religious Diversity: A Christian-based Theory of Faith, and an Islamic-Grounded Theory of Truth]; Mohd. Aijaz Khan, [Jihad: A Contemporary Issue] and Md. Iftekhar, [Islam and World Peace].

The fifth Panel was on the topic "Vedic Vision of Inclusiveness." Professor G.C. Tripathy, New Delhi, India chaired the session. The prominent speakers were Professor S.P. Singh: [Vedic idea of Consciousness]; Professor S.R. Bhatt: [Vedic View of Life]; Professor S.P. Kumar: [Vedic Conception of Human Body] and Dr. Vedvati Vaidik: [Prana in the Upanishads].

The Indian Council of Historical Research sponsored the sixth Panel discussion on the topic "Sufism and Bhakti Philosophy in Mediaeval India". Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Chairman, ICHR presided over the session. The main discussants were Dr. Minakshi Khanna, [India: Bhakti Elements in Sufi Literature] and Dr. Vedavalli Narayanan, [Bhakti Movement in South India].

In order to create adequate space for discussion on several philosophical topics, the Congress organised a few

Round Tables on different topics. The first Round Table was on "Gender, Culture and Philosophy in India and China". Along with Professor Manoranjan Mohanty, the Chair of the session, the speakers were Dr. Patricia Uberoi and few others. [Eastern and Western Cultures and their Differences]. The Congress lost the opportunity to be benefitted by the deliberations of the Chinese delegation because the visa which was granted did not reach them in time.

The topic of the second Round Table was "Dharmic State and Society: Asian Experiments". It was chaired by Prof S.R. Bhatt and participant

speakers were Professor Douglas Allen, USA: [Hind Swaraj of Gandhi]; Professor S. L. Gandhi, [Dharmic State in Jain Philosophy]; Professor Rama Rao Pappu, USA: [Gandhi's Rama Rajya as Utopia and Ecotopia] and Professor Ramjee Singh: [Dharma according to Gandhi and Vinoba].

"Community, Culture and Civil Society in Asia" was the topic of the Round Table - 3. Professor R.P. Singh was the chair person and among the renowned participants speakers were Professor Sergei Sere-



Professor K.S. Radhakrishnan speaking on Art, Science and Philosophy of formation of Policy in the Mahabharata. Dr. Ranjan K. Ghosh, Dr. Preeti Ghosh and others attending the Round Table

briany, Russia: [Philosophy as a Free Search for Knowledge: the Concept and its Transfer to Russia and India]; Professor K.S. Radhakrishnan: [Art, Science and Philosophy of Formation of Polity in the Mahabharata]; Mr. Yoshiya Makita, Japan: [Inventing Asian Selves in Modernity: Shinpei Goto and the Emergence of Organic Theory of the State in Japan at the Turn of the Twentieth Century] and Professor Sergey Chugrov, Russia : [Some Axiological Peculiarities of Japanese Identity Crisis].

Dr. K.K. Chakravarty, Chancellor, NEUPA chaired the fourth Round Table devoted to the theme: “Philosophical Foundations for Inter-cultural Understanding in Asia” with eminent speakers like Professors G.C. Tripathy, [Indian World View as the Basis for Philosophical Understanding of Asia]; Sujata Miri, [Us and the Other: Tribal Perspective]; Kapil Kapoor, [Two Knowledge Cultures : Philosophical Imperatives]; Srivatsa Goswami, [Bhakti: The Philosophical Framework of Inter-cultural Understanding in the Context of Hindu –Muslim Interaction].

The fifth Round Table was on the theme, “Social Theory and Asian Dialogues: Cultivating Planetary Conversations.” Chaired by Dr. Ananta Kumar Giri, the eminent speakers of this round table were: Dr. Vyasa Prasad: [Phenomenology and Vedanta]; Dr. Parthasarathi Mondal: [Philosophy: Social Theory and Asian Dialogues: Kant and Krishnachandra Bhattacharya]; Dr. Manindra K. Thakur: [Social Theory and Asian Dialogues: The Task of Creative Theorizing].

The sixth Round Table was organised with Professor Asanga Tilakaratne in the Chair. Sponsored by the Somaiya Institute of Buddhist Studies, the discussion was on the topic “Dissemination of Buddhism in India And



Dr. Supriya Rai speaking at the 6th Round Table on Dissemination of Buddhism in India and Abroad: Prof. A. Tilakratne in the chair.

Abroad.” The speakers included Professor Ravindra Pant, [Spread of Buddhism within India]; Dr. Supriya Rai, [Spread of Mahayana Buddhism to China]; Dr. Parineeta Deshpande, [Dissemination of Buddhism to Korea] and Professor Kalpakam Sankaranaryan, [Later Mahayana Buddhism in Japan].

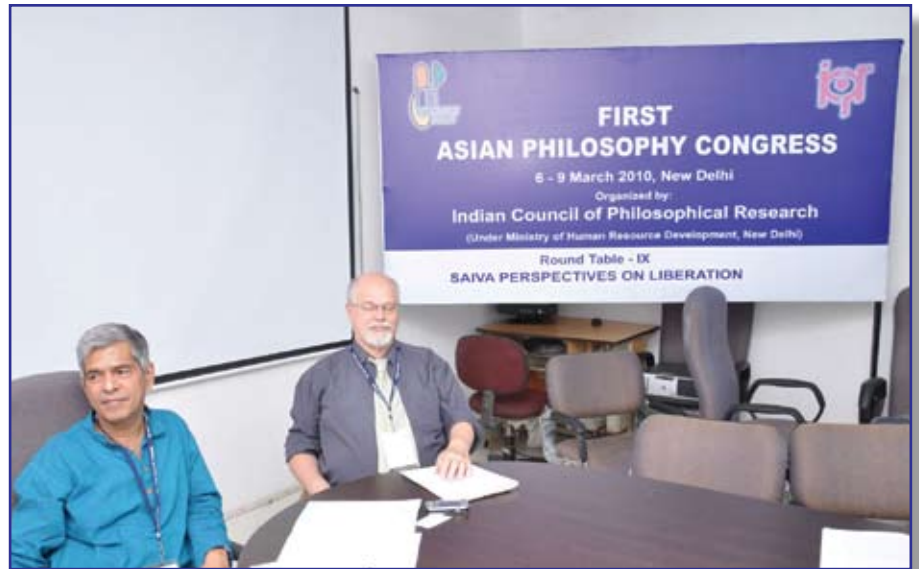
The next Round Table was sponsored by Akhil Bharatiya Darshan Parishad on the topic “The Concept of Prama”. Professor S.P. Dubey chaired the session. Participant speakers were Professor A.D. Sharma, [Nature of Prama in Buddhism]; Dr. Sohanraj



Professor S.P. Dubey, Professor A.D. Sharma, Professor H.S. Upadhyay with others during the session by Akhil Bharatiya Darshan Parishad

Tater, [Prama in Jainism]; Professor H.S. Upadhyay, [Prama according to Vedanta]; Professor R.C. Sinha, [Analysis of Prama in Contemporary Indian Thought].

“Pursuit of Women Intellect and Activity in Independent India” was the topic of the Round table 7. Professor Neelima Sinha chaired it and Professor Chhaya Rai spoke on The Role of Indian Women Intellectuals on Present Cultural Predicament. Other speakers were Professor Geeta S. Mehta, [Role and Fate of Women in Indian society];



A view of the session on Saiba Siddanta



Professor Neelima Sinha chairing the session on Pursuit of Women intellect by the Bharatiya Mahila Darshanika Parishad

Professor Debika Saha, [Pursuit of Women Intellect and Activity in Literature]; Professor S. Uma Devi, [Independent India: Colonization of the Mind of Intellectual Women] and Professor Raj Kumari Sinha, [Female Foeticide in India: An Ethico-Philosophical Perspective]. This programme was held with the sponsorship of Bhartiya Mahila Darshanika Parishad. Given to feminist movement, this session opened a lot of discussion and enthusiastic participation.

Saiva Perspectives on Liberation was the theme of the ninth Round Table. Chaired by Professor Navjeevan Rastogi, the speakers were Professor Dominic Goodal,

India: [Saiva Views on Liberation and the Relevance of Mala]; Dr. Alex Watson, UK: [Samkranti-vada of the Pasupatas]; Dr. S.L.P. Anjaneya Sarma: [Examination of the Paramoksa-nirasa-karika-vrtti] and Dr. Surendra Mohan Mishra: [Philosophy and Soteriology of the Pasupatas: An Eminent Asiatic Religious School].

The “Tribal Communities of Asia: Philosophical Explorations” was taken up as the topic of the tenth Round Table. It was chaired by Prof Sujata Miri and the speakers included Dr. Prasenjit Biswas, Dr. Bhagat Oinam and a few others.



Professor Sujata Miri chairing the Round Table on “Tribal Communities of Asia” Dr. Oinam Bhagat speaking at the session

Sectional meetings were held on third day which was participated in and attended by a large number of APC young and senior scholars alike. It spread in twelve parallel sessions on various important themes of Asian Philosophies.



Swami Atmachaitanya speaking at the Symposium on Vedanta in the New Millenium. Swami Paramananda Bharati alongwith Professor Srivatsa Goswami on the dais.

Before dinner, there were cultural programmes organised in the evenings. On 7th March 2010, the Philosophy students from JNU gave a dance performance including dance by Iranian students. On 8th, a Bharatnatyam recital was given by Padmasri Geeta Chandran, a very eminent artist. The performance was very highly appreciated by all. Professor Srivatsa Goswami who, on behalf of Shri Chaitanya Prema Samsthana sponsored the programme, was profusely thanked.



Bharatnatyam by the famous artist, Gita Chandran, Founder-President of Natya-Vriksha



Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao chairing S.K. Somaiya Memorial Lecture delivered by Professor P.K. Mukhopadhyay, the speaker of the session

In order to commemorate the contribution of Dr. S.K. Somaiya who not only shared the academic value of the Congress but also made significant financial contribution to hold it. There was a Somaiya Memorial Lecture which was delivered on “Religion and Other” by Professor P.K. Mukhopadhyay. Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao presided over the lecture and Professor G. Mishra spoke on the contribution of Dr. S.K. Somaiya.

There was a business session when the academic deliberations of the Congress were concluded and this session unanimously elected Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao to be the next President of the Asian Philosophy Congress.



Cultural Programme by JNU Philosophy Students – A Russian Dance

The proceedings of the First Asian Philosophy Congress came to an end with the Valedictory Function held at India Habitat Centre with a banquet dinner. Smt. Purandeshwari, Hon'ble Minister of State, MHRD was the chief guest of this session. The Valedictory Address was delivered by senior parliamentarian and distinguished thinker and philosopher Dr. Karan Singh, President, ICCR, with Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman ICPR in the chair. Welcome address and summary of the proceedings of the four day's Asian Philosophy congress programme was presented by Professor G. Mishra, Member Secre-

tary, ICPR. Professor R.P. Singh, who coordinated the event proposed a vote of thanks and wished that this APC should be perpetuated in the years to come. Chairman and Member Secretary thanked all the collaborators and the staff of ICPR for their support, help and assistance in making this event a grand success. With the interest and enthusiasm that was enthusiastically exhibited in the First Asian Philosophy Congress by participants from around the globe, the Congress may be presumed to be the opening up of a very new and very promising horizon in the area of Asian Philosophy.

ICPR ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Panel Discussion on "Tradition of Indian Aesthetics: Philosophical Perspectives" held at ICPR Academic Centre, Lucknow

Indian Council of Philosophical Research's Academic Centre, Lucknow organized a panel discussion on "Tradition Of Indian Aesthetics : Philosophical Perspectives" on January 23, 2010 at 11.00 a.m. It was chaired by Professor G. Mishra Member-Secretary, ICPR. Welcome address was given by Professor Rakesh Chandra, Head, Philosophy Department, Lucknow University. Among the panellist were Professor Radhavallabh Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Professor Navjeevan Rastogi, Lucknow, and Professor B. Boruah, IIT Delhi.



Prof. R. Tripathi, addressing the audience

Workshop programme of Professor Arvind Sharma of McGill University



Prof. Arvind Sharma, addressing the participants

A two day Workshop-cum-Lecture programme was organised by the ICPR Academic Centre, Lucknow on 24th and 25th February 2010. The speaker was Professor Arvind Sharma of McGill University, who is one among a few internationally renowned academics having vast experience in the field of education and administration. The theme of the two day event was "World's Religions after 26/11". On the 24th February, the programme started with a welcome by Dr. Mercy Helen, Director(P&R). Professor Navjeevan Rastogi chaired the session and Professor Ashok Vohra was the main discussant. In his interesting talk on the theme, Professor Sharma touched on various aspects of the discourse which emerged in the wake of 9/11 and 26/11 and the context of the event.

International Seminar on “I, We and the Other: Asymmetries of Moral Evaluation” held at Delhi University



Seminar at Delhi University

An international seminar on “I, We and the Other: Asymmetries of Moral Evaluation” was held in the

Department of Philosophy, Delhi University, Delhi during February 16 - 18, 2010. About fifteen participants from abroad, twenty-five participants from all over India and fifty participants from Delhi took part in the proceedings of the seminar. The participants were not only from the Departments of Philosophy but also from the Departments of Linguistics, Sanskrit, Modern Indian and European Languages, Physics etc. The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. K. Ramakrishna Rao. He delivered the keynote address. Prof. Ashok Vohra was the coordinator of this seminar.

Each of the lectures was followed by lively and intense discussion. Nineteen papers were presented and discussed during the seminar.

National Seminar on “Swami Dayanand Saraswati” organized by the Department of Sanskrit, DAV College, Abohar, Punjab

A National Seminar on “Swami Dayanand Saraswati : Different Perspectives of thought” was held on 9th January 2010. Organized by the Department of Sanskrit, DAV College, Abohar, Punjab, it was sponsored by Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi. The seminar was inaugurated by Professor Bhawanilal Bharatiya, former Head of the Dayanand Research Chair, Panjab University, Chandigarh. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Surendra Mohan Mishra, Dept. of Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit, Kurukhstra University, Kurukshetra, Haryana and Professor Virendra Kumar Alankar, Dept. of Sanskrit, Panjab University, Chandigarh delivered the welcome address.

Dr. B.B. Sharma, Principal, DAV College, Abohar was the Director and Dr.P.C.Padhy, Head, Dept. of Sanskrit was the convener of the National Seminar. There were thirty scholars who presented their papers covering four sessions on different sub-themes of the seminar. Dr.Satyapal Singh and Dr.(Mrs.) Saraswati from Delhi, Dr.Nirangan Sahu and Dr.(Mrs.) Madhuri Gupta from Ajmer, Dr.(Smt.) Vinay Sharma from Chittargarh, Dr. C.K.Jha & Dr.A.Mishra from Ambala, Dr. Rajpal Kaushik from Panipat, Dr. Mahinder Singh



Dignitaries at the dais on the occasion of ICPR National Seminar at DAV College, Abohar, Punjab

from Jhajjar, Dr. K.B.Pandeya from Shriganganagar, Dr. Lakhbir Singh from Chandigarh, Dr. Vinod Kumar and Dr. (Smt.) Neeraj Sharma from Jalandhar. Prof. Balwinder Kumar, Shri. Divakar Bharti and Shri. Sunil Shastri from Moga, Dr. Veena Jain, Dr. Jagraon, Dr. Prabhat Singh from Hoshiarpur, Dr. Shishupal from Hanumangarh, Dr. Randhir Kaushik from Sangrur, Dr. Gaur Mohan Mathur, Shri. M.P. Bharadwaj and Smt. Gurmeet Kaur from Abohar participated in the seminar and discussions.

National Seminar on Parapsychology from the Indian Philosophical Perspective held at the Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, Andhra University

The National Seminar on Parapsychology from Indian Philosophical Perspective was organized by the Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, Andhra University, on 11 and 12 January, 2010. This Seminar was funded primarily by Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) and was also supported by the University Grants Commission.

The Seminar began with the welcome address given by Dr. T.V. Ananda Rao, Professor and Head of the Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, Andhra University. Dr. V. Gowri Rammohan, Director of the seminar and Professor, Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, Andhra University, briefly presented to the audience the objectives of the seminar. Dr. K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi and Former Vice Chancellor, and Founder Head of the Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, Andhra University, in his address as a Guest of Honor, unfolded the backdrop of the purpose for starting the Department which was mainly to promote research in parapsychology. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. B. Satyanarayana and the Registrar, Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy expressed their high appreciation for this kind of a Seminar. Prof. L.K. Mohan Rao, Principal, College of Arts and Commerce, Andhra University, presided over the function.

The first session began with the keynote address by Edwin C. May, titled “Challenges and opportunities in a multi-disciplinary conference” and it was followed by Prof. V. N. Jha’s talk on ‘Psychology: A Classical Indian Approach’. This was followed by a paper by Mr. V.V. Rammohan titled ‘Master EK’s spiritual psychology’.

On the second day, Dr. P. Sriramamurti and Prof. Sangeetha Menon addressed the issues of brain-self interrelations. The second session featured two papers, first paper entitled “Preksa Meditation and Psyche:



Dignitaries on the dais at the ICPR National Seminar at Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam

Parapsychological Approach” by Dr. J. P. N. Mishra explained Preksa Dhyana as a technique of meditation for attitudinal change and integrated development of personality. In the second paper titled “Yoga tradition and anahat sabda yoga or surat sabda yoga”, Prof. P. Sriramamurti elaborated on Surat Sabda yoga which aims to reach the ultimate state of transcendental consciousness. The third session comprised four papers of Dr. K.M. Tripathi, Mr. Taraka Rama Rao, Mr. K. Ramesh Babu and Prof. V. Gowri Rammohan.

The two-day Seminar concluded with a valedictory function with Dr. K. Ramakrishna Rao, as Chief Guest and the function was presided over by Prof. T.V. Ananda Rao, Head of the Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, Andhra University. In his address Prof. K. Ramakrishna Rao emphasized the need for more empirical research combining the rich Indian cultural models and implementing the experimental model of the West. Prof. Gowri Rammohan, Director of the Seminar, proposed a vote of thanks thanking the Indian Council of Philosophical Research for funding the Seminar which enabled her to organize it in the most be fitting way possible. Prof. Gowri Rammohan thanked the Press and the Media for their wide coverage of the Seminar in the News papers and on the Television.

National Seminar on the theme 'Theorizing Body: Problems and Perspectives' conducted at Calicut University

National seminar on the theme 'Theorizing Body: Problems and Perspectives' was conducted at Calicut university on 27th, 28th and 29th of January 2010. Around 142 registered participants including 20 resource persons attended the seminar. The sessions were conducted at the seminar complex of the University. The participants were mostly students, research scholars and teachers of Calicut university and other universities, institutions and colleges. The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Shefali Moitra, former Professor of Philosophy of Jadavpur University on 27th of January at 10.00 am. She spoke on the contemporary relevance and the interdisciplinary dimensions of the topic of the seminar. Prof. K. Gopinathan, Professor of Philosophy of Calicut University chaired one of the sessions. Dr. T.V. Madhu, Director of the Seminar, presented the concept-paper on the theme of the Seminar.

The inaugural session was followed by the key-note address by Prof. P.R.K. Rao, former Professor of IIT Kanpur. Professor Rao made a power-point presentation which was centered on the problems implied in philosophizing about the body.

Prof. Udayakumar of Delhi University and Dr. Asha Achuthan of NIAS, Bangalore presented papers in the post-lunch session on the same day. This was followed by a special session by Dr. Ian McDonald of Brighton University, UK. He spoke on 'sporting body' from a sociological perspective. There was also a film-screening session of a documentary directed by Dr. Ian McDonald which directly dealt with the question as to how body is being culturally and politically invested.



Paper presentation at the ICPR National Seminar at Calicut University, Kerala

On the second day Prof. Nizar Ahmed, former Professor of Philosophy of Sree Sankaracharya University at Kalady and Dr. Anup Dhar, fellow of the Center for Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore, Dr. Koshy Tharakan, Associate Professor of Philosophy, IIT Gandhinagar and Dr. V.T Pius, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Central University, Silchar presented their papers in the sessions.

In the last session of the second day, Prof. Shefali Moitra presented her paper titled 'The epistemic turn: body and some feminist concerns'. Her paper attempted to show how feminist reconceptualization of body calls for a remapping of philosophy.

On the third day, Prof. Franson Manjali, Professor of the Center for Linguistics and Cultural Studies, JNU, New Delhi and Dr. Abey Koshy, Reader in Philosophy of Sree Sankaracharya University, Kalady presented papers.

National Seminar on Pandits: Twentieth Century Bengal's Contribution to Classical Indian Philosophy of Language

A National Seminar on Pandits: Twentieth Century Bengal's Contribution to Classical Indian Philosophy of Language, organized by Department of Philosophy, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata and sponsored

by Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi took place during 3-4 September, 2010. The key-note speaker was Professor V.N. Jha who spoke of the history of linguistic speculation in classical Indian



Dr. N.N. Chakraborty addressing the audience

Seminar organised by Dept. of Philosophy, S.B.M.S.College, Sualkuchi (Assam)



Participants interacting with the speaker

One Day Seminar on Applied Ethics held at Dept. of Philosophy, Patna University, Bihar

A One Day Seminar on Applied Ethics was organized by Dept. of Philosophy, Patna University, Bihar under the sponsorship of ICPR on 08-02-2010. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Patna University, Dr. Shyam Lal Presided over the inaugural session and Dr. Shamshad Hussain, Ex- Vice-Chancellor of Magadh University, Bodh-Gaya inaugurated the session. Dr. Madhuri Verma, Head, Patna University and organizing secretary of the Seminar while welcoming the guests elaborated the theme and objective of the Seminar. The keynote address was given by Dr. I.N. Sinha, Retd. Professor & Head, the Department of Philosophy, Patna University. He laid stress on the need for the application of ethical codes in various fields of human life for bringing about progress, prosperity, harmony, happiness and peace. There were technical sessions in which many scholar they included participated. Dr. Ramjee Singh, Retd. Professor of Philosophy, T.M.

spoke about the contribution of Pandit Yogendranath Bagchi. Professor D.N.Tiwari spoke about the contribution of Pandit Dinanath Nabatirtha to philosophy of grammar.

The valedictory address was delivered by Professor Pradyot Kumar Mukhopadhyay. Professor Mukhopadhyay, in his address, spoke in details on the uniqueness of the twentieth century Bengali Pandits' contribution to Indian philosophy of language.

A seminar was organised by the Dept. of Philosophy, S.B.M.S. College, Sualkuchi (Assam) on 15-2-10 on the topic "Humanism with special reference to Radhakrishnan" with the financial assistance given by ICPR. The resource person of the seminar was Prof. Girish Sharma HOD of Philosophy, Gauhati University. Most of the participants took active part in the interactive session after the lecture of Prof Sharma. The general feeling was that the great relevance of humanism in the present context was properly emphasized by the speaker.



Seminar at Patna University

Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur, Dr. R.C. Sinha and Dr. M.P. Chaurasia. All these papers were discussed with questionnaire by the participants. The interactive session was lively and effective.

Grants sanctioned for new Seminar/conference/workshops etc. and Major/Minor Research Projects

Following persons/institutes have been approved for Seminar/conference/workshop grant for the year 2009-10:

S.No.	Name	Topic	Amount
1.	Professor Vanalghak, Department of Philosophy, NEHU, Shillong	3-days National Seminar on THE OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY: PHILOSOPHICAL REFLECTIONS ON IDENTITIES, TRIBES AND WORLDVIEWS	Rs. 4.00 lacs
2.	Professor Prasenjit Bisvas, Department of Philosophy, NEHU, Shillong	2-days Workshop-cum-Conference proposal entitled, METHODOLOGY OF PHILOSOPHICAL STUDY OF TRIBAL WORLDVIEWS IN THE CONTEXT OF INDIA'S NORTHEAST	Rs.2.00 lacs
3.	Dr. D.K. Rana, Director, Chinmaya International Foundation Shodha Sansthan, Adi Sankara Nilayam, Ernakulam, Kerala	10-days textual workshop on INDIAN PHILOSOPHY: A BRIEF ANALYTIC STUDY	Rs.1.00 lac
4.	Professor Sundar Sarukkai, Manipal, Karnataka	Summer School	Rs.3 lacs
5.	Professor Srivatsa Goswami, Vrindavan	Bhakti and Sannyasa	Rs.2 lacs
6.	Professor A.K. Mohanty, Bhubaneswar	Human Rights and Social Justice	Rs.2 lacs
7.	Professor A. Balaganapathi, Kuppam	Citizenship, Nationality and Globalization	Rs.1.5 lacs
8.	Dr. A.P. Dubey, Sagar	Advaita Philosophy & Human Excellence	Rs.1 lac
9.	Dr. Jagdish Patgiri (NER)	Social Concerns ID Indian Philosophy	Rs.2 lacs
10.	Dr. Sreekala Nair, Kalady	Epistemology & Cognitive Studies: Their Interplay in Current Knowledge Analysis	Rs.0.30 lacs

Project Grant

Following persons/institutes have been approved for the section of the project grant for the year 2009-10

S.No.	Name	Topic	Amount
1.	Dr. Samani Mangala Prajna, VC, Jain Viswa Barati, Ladnun	EDITING OF THE PRASNAVYAKARANA: A LOST JAINA TREATISE	(Collaborative project for which ICPR commitment is Rs. 5.00 lacs with equal commitment from Jain Viswa Bharati, Ladnun)
2.	Dr. N.K. Ambastha, Dhanbad	BHARAT-VARSH MEIN UGRAVA	Rs.0.75 lacs
3.	Dr. Priyadarshi Patnaik, IIT, Kharagpur	METAPHYSICAL WRITINGS OF THE PANCASAKHA SANTHAS OF MEDIAVAL ORISSA	RS.1.00 lac per year
4.	Dr. Kalpagam Sankaranarayanan	THE POWER OF WORD: SOCIO-PHILOSOPHICAL DIMENSIONS OF BUDDHISM	SIBS, Mumbai (Collaborative project for which ICPR commitment is Rs. 2.5 lacs)

An International Conference on Schopenhauer organized by Dept. of Philosophy, Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi



Smt. D. Purandeswari, Honorable Minister of State, HRD, chief guest releasing a book in the special session

The Department of Philosophy, Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi: jointly with the Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, JNU in collaboration with the Indian division of the Schopenhauer society Schopenhauer Research Center, Germany organized an international conference on the occasion of the 150th death anniversary of the well-known German philosopher, Arthur Schopenhauer (1788 - 1860). A large number of foreign scholars from Germany and UK and many scholars from all over India assembled at the Seminar Hall of Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, JNU during 4-5 March 2010 to pay their tribute and respect in memory of the Western philosopher who carried the wisdoms of the Upanishads and the Buddhist ideals to the Western world.

The Indian Division of the Schopenhauer Society jointly with the department of philosophy Deshbandhu college collaborated with the Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, JNU, and the Schopenhauer

Research Center of the University of Mainz, Germany. Distinguished Schopenhauerian scholar Prof. Matthias Kossler, the honorable President of the Schopenhauer Gesellschaft was present amongst others on this occasion.

Dr. Arati Barua, Director, IDSS welcomed the gathering and requested Prof. S.R. Bhatt, advisor of the seminar to give a thematic view of the conference. While the Principal of DBC, Dr. A.P. Raste gave a hearty welcome to all the guests. Besides the students, the teachers of Deshbandhu college as well as JNU and other institutions also participated in the seminar.

Inaugurating the seminar Shri Vachaspati Upadhyaya, Vice Chancellor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Vidyapeeth paid high tributes to Schopenhauer in his inaugural speech. Professor Matthias Kossler, President of the Schopenhauer Gesellschaft delivered a special speech on the occasion.

Book Release: by Smt. D. Purandeswari , honorable Minister of State, MHRD, marks a new chapter of Indo-German relations during the international conference on Schopenhauer at JNU as the chief Guest in the special session of evening. She praised Arthur Schopenhauer, the first significant Western philosopher to recognize Indian Upanishads. The honorable minister also formally released a book “Gandhi and Grant: Their Philosophical Affinities” edited by Arati

Barua, Deshabndhu College, published by Academic Excellence, New Delhi 2010 during the seminar.

Each day of the seminar there were four academic sessions and in each session there were two papers for presentation. Thus 16 papers in total were presented in the seminar. Of these 16 papers, there were 8 papers from foreign participants (6 from Germany, 1 from UK, 1 from USA) and 8 from Indian scholars including (4 from outstation).

Brief Report on the proceedings of 22nd Annual Conference of All Orissa Philosophy Association



A view of the Inaugural Function at the All Orissa Philosophy Association

The twenty-second annual conference of All Orissa Philosophy Association was held in Choudwar College, Choudwar (Dist. Cuttack) on 23rd & 24th January 2010. The conference was inaugurated by Professor Jitendra Nath Mohanty, Professor Emeritus, Temple University, Philadelphia, USA. Prof. K.B. Jena, Principal of Choudwar College delivered the welcome address. Professor S.K Mohanty, Vice-President of the AOPA introduced the guests. Professor S.C. Panigrahi, General Secretary of the Association presented a brief report on the different activities of the Association.

PERIODICAL LECTURES

Two Periodical Lectures organized by Dept. of Philosophy, C.M.P. Degree College, University of Allahabad



The dignitaries on the dais

Dept. of Philosophy, C.M.P. Degree College, University of Allahabad organized two periodical lectures under the sponsorship of the ICPR, New Delhi. The first lecture organized on December 16, 2009 was given by Prof. Sabhajit Mishra, Retd. Professor of Philosophy Department, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University on the topic - 'Brain, Mind and Consciousness-with special reference to Indian Theories'. He spoke on how consciousness is related either to self or ego or mind or body from the viewpoint of Indian theories. The lecture was attended by around 300 students and 50 teachers.

The second lecture was organized on February 6, 2010 by Prof. Ram Lal Singh, Retd. Professor, Philosophy

Department, Allahabad University. The topic of the lecture was ‘Matter, Mind and Consciousness.’ The learned speaker explained how consciousness is related either to self or ego or mind or body from the viewpoint of Upanishads. This lecture was also attended by a large number of students and teachers.

According to Dr. Rama Rani of the CMP college the lectures were organized to create interest among the students in Philosophy so that they pursue their future studies and research in Philosophy and for updating faculty members about recent researches.

Periodical Lecture on Niskama Karma of Bhagvad Gita at Salipur College, Salipur, Dist Cuttack (Orissa)



A view of the Lecture Programme

The periodical lecture on “Niskama Karma of Bhagvad Gita: Its social relevance” was held at 10 a.m. in the Conference Hall of Salipur College, Salipur, Dist: Cuttack (Orissa) on 18.01.10

It was presided over by Prof. Debendra Ku. Rout, Principal of Salipur College. Prof. Netrananda Malla

Ex- Professor of North Eastern Hill University, Shillong was the resource person. The teaching staff of the college, lecturers in Philosophy of nearby Colleges and students of Philosophy of this College participated in it.

Dr. (Capt.) Madan Mohan Das, was the co-ordinator of this lecture. Prof. N. Malla in his lecture explained that the concept of Niskama Karma is one of the cardinal concepts not only in Bhagvad Gita but also in Indian Culture. .

After the lecture, Prof. N. Malla responded to some questions raised by the participants. Prof. D.K. Rout, the Principal of the college emphasized that Niskama Karma is indispensable for each and every human being of this society.

Finally, Prof. Manisha Tripathy, a staff member of the Department expressed their gratitude to Prof. N. Malla and extended heartfelt thanks to all the participants.

Two Lecture Programmes organized by The Department of Guru Nanak Studies, University of Amritsar

The department of Guru Nanak Studies, University of Amritsar, Amritsar, Punjab organized two lectures entitled “Applied Ethics” and “Awareness about Climatic Changes and their Effect on Living Beings” which were presided over by Dr. M.P.S. Isher, the Dean of Students Welfare, on 22nd January.

It was organized through ICPR sponsorship and financial assistance was provided under the scheme of periodical lectures programme. According to the coordinator of this lecture programme, it got good response from allied departments and the faculty members of other departments, research scholars and students. Outside delegates participated in the discussions.



ICPR Periodical Lecture programme at the university of Amritsar, Punjab

A Lecture Programme organized by Dept. of Philosophy North Lakhimpur College, Lakhimpur, Assam



A view of the Lecture Programme

A lecture on the topic “HUMANISM OF DR. RADHAKRISHNAN” had been organised by the Department of Philosophy amidst enthusiasm of teachers and students at the college auditorium on 8th February 2010.

Dr. B. Baruah, Principal of the college was the Chief guest of the programme, while Dr. S.N .Phukan Retd. Principal and Former HOD, Philosophy, North Lakhimpur College, inaugurated the Session and also released a Departmental Bulletin. Mr.B.Kalita, HOD Hindi, Presided over the session.

Mr Dibyajyoti Phukan delivered the lectures. All the 250 students of philosophy along with a good number of teachers and students of other Departments attended the lecture programme.

Lecture Series organized in Department of Philosophy, S.P. College, Pune



The lecture programme with Professor Subash Bhelke

A lecture series was organized in the Department of Philosophy, S.P.College, Pune on the theme, ‘Aesthetics: Indian and Western’, on 20th February 2010.

The first lecture was given by the eminent thinker and dramatist, prof. G. P. Deshapande. The theme chosen was, ‘Natyashastra Revisited’. Prof. Deshapande urged for a new reading of this text which would involve dialectic of deconstruction and reconstruction seeing nothing and seeing everything as it were, in the text.

The second speaker Dr. Archana Degaokar presented her views on ‘Expressivisim in the theory of art’.



A partial view of the audience participating in the programme

She said that expressivism as a theory of art is often confused with expressionism. According to Dr. Degaokar art is symbolic and every culture has its own system of symbols and art can express itself through these symbols.

The third lecture was presented by Prof S.E Bhelke on the theme ‘the concept of beauty in Indian tradition’. He began his session with an interactive method. He raised questions about the notion of beauty and delivered his lecture as response to queries raised by the audience.

Periodical Lecture Programme organized by Dept. of Applied Philosophy, MJP Rohilkhand University (Campus), Bareilly

Department of Applied Philosophy, MJP Rohilkhand University (Campus), Bareilly on 23rd February 2010 organized Periodical Lecture Programme on the topic “Professional Ethics and Techniques of Reasoning” with the support of Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi.



Professor Bhagat Oinam delivering the lecture

Prof. Satypal Gautam, Vice-Chancellor of the University chaired the programme. Dr. Bhagat Oinam, Chairperson, Centre of Philosophy, School of Social

Sciences, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi was the main Speaker. Prof. N.P. Singh, Dean, Faculty of Education & Allied Sciences, (FEAS), MJPRU, was the special Guest of the Programme. Dr. Rajjan Kumar, Head, Department of Applied Philosophy, the convener, was also present.

Prof. Satypal Gautam, Vice-Chancellor of the University, inaugurated the lecture programme. He spoke on queries and differences between good and evil, values and morality, ethics and moral values.

Dr. Bhagat Oinam, JNU New Delhi who was the chief Speaker of the programme, spoke on “The Fundamentals of Values: Evaluating ‘I’, ‘We’ and ‘Others’.” During his lecture he highlighted the need of freedom of will for the progress of society as well as the individual.

Dr. Rajjan Kumar, convener of the programme said that Philosophy, as the foundational discipline of all knowledge, is essentially practice oriented. It is both a view and a way of life. It is not just love of wisdom, as its etymology may suggest, but also it is the shaping of life.

A Lecture Programme held by Dept of Philosophy, M.J. College, Jalgaon, Maharashtra

A lecture to popularize philosophy amongst students in particular and the public in general was organized in Moolji Jaitha College, Jalgaon on 25th February 2010 at 11:00 AM. An eminent professor of Philosophy Prof. Venkat Reddy, Professor Emeritus (UGC),

Osmania University, Hyderabad was invited to deliver the lecture on the topic “Philosophy of Yoga and its application in daily life for an improved lifestyle”.

The learned speaker was introduced to the audience by Mr. V.S. Kanchi, Department of Philosophy. Mr. S.M. Chhapekar, Honorary Director, KCE Society’s Vividhata Research & Training Centre compered the program. The meeting was presided over by Principal. Shri Anil G. Rao who gave his presidential remarks after the speech of the main speaker. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Shri Chhapekar which was immediately followed by Pasayadan, a prayer in Marathi.

The meeting was attended by well over 300 persons comprising of students, faculty members of various departments of the college, other invitees and the general public. Posters and banners depicting the significance of Yoga in daily life were put on display.



A view of the Lecture Programme

A Lecture Programme organized by Dept. of Philosophy, Govt. College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerla)



Professor K. Srinivas on the dais

An Invited ICPR Lecture was organized by the Dept. of Philosophy, Govt. College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram, on 11th March, 2010. Dr. K Srinivas, Prof. of Philosophy, Pondicherry University was the resource person.

The lecture was arranged in the seminar hall, Govt. College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram.

The lecture began at 10 a.m. with a formal welcome note by Dr. G. Padma Kumar, HOD, Dept. of Philosophy. It was followed by the lecture on 'What is Consciousness?' by Dr. K Srinivas. The topic was introduced in a student-friendly way beginning right from the Indian tradition. He explained the topic in a systematic and methodical way to bring in a synoptic vision of consciousness, its varying aspects from both the Indian as well as the Western perspectives.



Partial view of the audience at the Lecture Programme

Periodical Lecture Programme held at Dept. of Philosophy University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram



A view of the audience participating the lecture

The ICPR Periodical lecture Programme of the year 2010 was organized in the Dept. of Philosophy, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram on 12th March, 2010. Dr. K. Srinivas, professor of Philosophy, Pondicherry University was the resource person who

delivered a scholarly lecture on Habermas' Communicative Theory.

The programme began at 1030 a.m. with a note of welcome by Dr. Beena Isaac, HOD, Department of Philosophy. The Resource person gave a brief introduction to the critical theory and presented the analysis of the post-modern outlook of Habermas in his free outlook, critical thinking etc. It was followed by an interactive session when students and teachers raised queries and made observations regarding the topic presented. The programme came to an end with a vote of thanks by Miss. Ambily, Department of Philosophy.

There were about fifty persons including teachers and students from the Department as well as from other colleges in the city. All of them participated well to make the programme a lively event.

Lecture Programme held at Dept. of Philosophy, Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur



Professor A.P. Dubey delivering the lecture

A lecture programme on practical morality was held in the Dept. of Philosophy, Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur on 12 March 2010 under the sponsorship of the ICPR, New Delhi.

Guru Gobind Singh Department of Religious Studies, Punjabi University Patiala held Two Periodical Lecture Programmes

The Guru Gobind Singh Department of Religious Studies, Punjabi University Patiala held two periodical lecture programmes on 15-3-2010, with the financial grant received from ICPR.

Dr. Tejander Kaur, Professor, and Head, Department of Distance Education, Punjabi University Patiala delivered her lecture on “Contemporary Feministic Philosophy”, and Dr. Manju Verma, Professor & Dean, Social Sciences, Punjabi University Patiala delivered her lecture on “Contemporary Philosophy and Peace Culture”. Students and faculty members of the Department attended the lecture programme.



Participants at the lecture programme

Periodical Lecture Programme organizes by St. Joseph's Capuchin Philosophical College, Kotagiri, Tamilnadu



View of the Invocation at the lecture programme

Under the auspices of Indian Council of Philosophical Research, the staff and students of St. Joseph's Capuchin Philosophical College, were enriched by ICPR Periodical Lectures held on 13th March, 2010, and delivered by Prof. S. Panneerselvam, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Madras.

There were 4 faculty members and 44 B.A. (Philosophy) students. The event began with the invocation to the Almighty by a song, followed by lighting the Indian traditional lamp by Prof. S. Panneerselvam. Dr. A.J. Mathew (Rector/Principal), Fr. Lourdu Xavier (Vice-Rector/Vice-Principal), Fr. V. John Peter (Organizer and Dean of Studies) and Fr. Stanley (Faculty

Member) were present. Dr. A.J. Mathew, the Rector of the College delivered the welcome speech in which he introduced Prof. S. Panneerselvam.

The First lecture was on “Philosophical Hermeneutics: An Introduction,” with a well prepared power-point presentation. At the end of the second lecture the learned professor took up many questions from staff and students. The Vice-Rector proposed the vote of thanks. With the college anthem the event came to a close. Staff and students of the college benefited well by both the lectures wherein the professor dealt with the Philosophical Hermeneutics of Western

tradition with an elaborate treatment of various philosophers like Dilthey, Husserl, Heidegger, Wittgenstein, Gadamer, Habermas, Ricoer, Richard Rotry, Derrida, Sassure and Levi-strauss. He spoke at length about the Indian Hermeneutical tradition enriched by Vedantic tradition.

According to Fr. V. John Peter Head, Department of Indian Philosophy St. Joseph’s Capuchin Philosophical College who was also the convener of the lecture programme, these Periodical Lectures gave an orientation to the faculty members to introduce a full fledged course on Hermeneutics.

A Periodical Lecture Programme held by Department of Philosophy, A.D.P. College, Nagaon, Assam



Lecture programme in Nagaon

An ICPR sponsored periodical lecture programme was held on the topic: Gandhi’s concept of religion and secular India. It was organized by the Department of Philosophy, A.D.P. College, Nagaon. The Resource person for this lecture programme was Dr. Pranita Devi. Students and faculty members of the college attended and were benefitted by this lecture programme.

VISITING PROFESSOR

Professor Ramakrishna Bhattacharya, ICPR visiting National Fellow’s Lecture held at University of Delhi and Nehu Shillong

Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi organized the lecture by Professor Ramakrishna Bhattacharya, under the sponsorship of ICPR annual lecture programme. The programme was held on 31st March 2010. The them of this programme was “Reasoners and Religious Law Makers : An ancient Indian Case Study”.

Department Of Philosophy NEHU Shillong organized a lecture programme by Professor Ramakrishna Bhattacharya, ICPR Visiting National Fellow on the 6th and 7th April 2010. The first lecture was held on



Prof. R. Bhattacharya delivering his lecture

the 6th April in the afternoon at the Science Auditorium where about a hundred participants gathered to listen to the lecture. Participants include NEHU and also other departments, research scholars and students from Philosophy. The lecture was followed by interac-

tion from the participants and the speaker, for which Speaker Prof. Bhattacharya tried to convince them by answering their queries and doubts. The lecture was lively and provoked lots of questions and reactions from the participants.

FONDLY REMEMBERING DR. S.K. SOMAIYA



Late Dr. S. K. Somaiya

Like the thousands of mostly unknown aristocrats who have dotted the classical Indian landscape for centuries, silently patronizing art, music, culture, architecture, philosophy and religion, Dr. Santilalji Somaiya was a great patron of learning in general and of philosophical learning in particular whom we had the good fortune of having in our midst. Hence it is quite a disheartening and saddening fact that Dr. Somaiya is no more. In the annals of Indian Academic history of the last 50 years, there is hardly any other person who, in his capacity as an individual and as a normal citizen of India, has single-handedly erected so many academic institutions that are exclusively devoted to the study and propagation of Indian culture, philosophy and languages. Dr. Somaiya also has the unique distinction of being a participant in many national

and international events related to Indian culture, Buddhism, Jainism, philosophy and languages in which besides presenting papers, he has also been the leader of several delegations who has also actively participated in the discussions. It was under his benevolent gaze, enthusiastic participation and collaboration that ICPR has recently initiated steps to take up the mega project of Asian Philosophy Congress and it is a immense regret that Dr Somaiya was not there any more to be physically participating in the event held in the first week of March 2010.

The huge academic campus created by him in the very heart of the city of Mumbai, very aptly called “Vidyavihar,” is literally a place where true learning (vidya) resides and is enjoyed by all (vihar). It is filled to the brim with a large number of institutions and academics working on several aspects of Indian History, Culture and Society. Even after his passing away, I hope and wish that the work he has started with such great love and dedication will surely continue, expand and achieve far greater heights. On behalf of our Chairman, and on behalf of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, I offer my heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family of Dr. Somaiya whose contributions to India and its history, philosophy and culture will be very fondly remembered for very many years to come.

(G. Mishra)
Member Secretary

Editor : Mrinal Miri

Volume XXVI No. 3

ARTICLES

SRINIVASA RAO

Computing Machines and Consciousness: A Look from Sāṅkhyan Perspective

SWATI BHATTACHARYA

The Logic of Human Needs

RAMKRISHNA BHATTACHARYA

Reasoners and Religious Law-makers: An Ancient Indian Case Study

V. HARINARAYANAN

Embodiment and Language

GEETA RAMANA

On Induction, Pramāṇa and the Problem of Experience

KHANGEMBAM ROMESH

Intrinsic Value: A Philosophically Challenging Inquiry in Environmental Ethics

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI: *Beyond Adaptation and Meditative Verbs of Co-realizations: Towards Creative Nurturance of "I," "Me," and "You" and the Transformative Fellowship of Non-Duality*

SOBIA TAHIR: *Categorical Imperative, Super-ego and Dharma: A Comparative Study of Kant, Freud and Bhagavad-Gītā*

BOOK REVIEWS

JOHN CLAMMER: *Diaspora and Belief Globalization, Religion and Identity in Postcolonial Asia* by Ranju Dhamala

K. NARAIN: *The Fundamentals of Advaita Vedānta* by Ajay Verma

KANCHA ILAIAH: *The Post-Hindu India: A Discourse on Dalit-Bahujan, Socio-Spiritual and Scientific Revolution* by Nishant Kumar & Smita Agarwal

PRITI SINGH ED.,: *Indigenous Identity and Activism* by Ramesh Bairy T. S

Volume XXVI No. 4

ARTICLES

Raghunath Ghosh

Nāgārjuna on denying Pramāṇa and Prameya as Categories: A Critique

Ramakrishna Puligandla

Some Reflections on Science-Religion Discourses

Bharath Kumar

Citizenship and Radical Multiculturalism

Debashish Guha

A Defense of Hermeneutic and Feminist Application of Ethics

Sucharita Som

The Nyāya Definition of Ākāṅkṣā

Surya Kant Maharana

A Few Aspects of Consciousness in Śāṅkara's Epistemology

Vikram Singh Sirola

Making Sense of Metaphysical Nonsense: Investigating the Tractarian Paradox

Sunil Kumar Das

Theories of Opposition: Aristotelian and Traditional

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI: *Compassion and Confrontation: Dialogic Experiments with Traditions and Pathways to New Futures*

RISHI KANT PANDEY: *Defects in Gettier's Counter-Examples: A short reply to Richard Feldman*

BOOK REVIEWS

NIRBHAI SINGH: *Martyrdom: Sikh View- the Philosophical Perspective* by Dharmendra Goel

RAJINI KOTHARI: *Rethinking Democracy* by Bharath Kumar