

**November 11, 2004, Auditorium Giovanni
Paolo II, Univ. S. Tommaso D'Aquino**

**Largo Angelicum, 1
Free Public Conference
(Prelude of the Congress)**

**The Meaning and Purpose of Life:
Scientific and Spiritual Perspectives
Scopo e Significato della Vita:
Prospettive Scientifiche e Spirituali**

Chairman: Francesco Bistoni

Guest of Honor: Daniela Monteforte, Assessor of Province of Rome	
Chairman	09:00 - 09:15 hrs
T. D. Singh, Physical Organic Chemist, India	09:15 - 09:30 hrs
Giuseppe Sermoniti, Geneticist, Italy	09:30 - 09:45 hrs
Imam Samir Khaldi, Islam Theologian, Italy	09:45 - 10:00 hrs
H. H. Saldas Babaji, Hindu Theologian, India	10:00 - 10:15 hrs
Ven. Gesche Sonam Cianciub, Buddhist Tradition, Tibet	10:15 - 10:30 hrs
Vittorio Marchi, Quantum Physicist, Italy	10:30 - 10:45 hrs
Questions and Answers	10:45 - 11:00 hrs
Break	11:00 - 11:20 hrs
H. H. Guru Shabad, Sikh, Italy	11:20 - 11:35 hrs
Gianfranco Di Segni, Biologist of CNR and member of Judaic Community of Rome, Italy	11:35 - 11:50 hrs
Laura Provera, Biblical Scholar, Italy	11:50 - 12:05 hrs
Michael Cremo, Archaeologist, USA	12:05 - 12:20 hrs
Questions and Answers	12:20 - 12:35 hrs
Marco Gozzi, Theologian and Bioethicist, Italy	12:35 - 13:00 hrs
(Vote of Thanks and Conclusion)	

**November 12, 2004, Protomoteca Hall,
Campidoglio**

Registration 07:30 - 09:00 hrs

**Session I
Inauguration**

Chairman: Dr. Marchi Vittorio

Invocations	09:00 - 09:30 hrs
Fr. Mizzi, Catholic; Dr. Gianfranco Di Segni, Judaism; Imam S. Khaldi, Ven. Gesche Sonam Cianciub, Tibetan Buddhism; Father Stefano Popa, Orthodox; H.H. Guru Shabad, Sikhism; H. H. Sri Saldas Baba, Hinduism	
Lighting the auspicious lamp by the Mayor of Rome	09:30 - 09:35 hrs
Il Sindaco accende la lampada di buon auspicio	
Message and wishes from the President of the Italian Republic Carlo Azelio Ciampi to the Congress	
Messaggio d'auspicio del Presidente della Repubblica Carlo Azelio Ciampi al Congresso	
Welcome and Overview of the Congress	
Dr. T. D. Singh	09:35 - 09:50 hrs
Goodwill Message	09:50 - 10:00 hrs
Hon'ble W. Veltroni, Mayor of Rome and Hon'ble Gianni Borgna:	
Keynotes	
V. V. Raman	10:00 - 10:35 hrs
Scientific Concepts of Life and Its Origin	
Concezioni scientifiche sulla vita e la sua origine	
Arij A. Roest Crolius S. J.	10:40 - 11:15 hrs

Concepts of Life and Its Origin from World's Religions

Concezioni sulla vita e la sua origine secondo le religioni

Vote of Thanks: Marco Gozzi 11:15 - 11:20 hrs

Break 11:20 - 11:35 hrs

Session II

**Spiritual Perspectives on Life and its Origin
Prospettive spirituali sulla vita e la sua origine**

Chairman: Maurizio Calipari

Laura Provera	11:40 - 12:05 hrs
Imam Samir Khaldi	12:10 - 12:35 hrs
Jonathan Edelmann	12:40 - 13:05 hrs
Questions and Answers	13:05 - 13:20 hrs
Lunch	13:20 - 14:40 hrs

Session III

The Cosmology and Cosmogony of Life: Contemporary Issues

Cosmologia e cosmogonia della vita: Stato dell'arte

Chairman: V. V. Ranaman

Jagdish N. Srivastava	15:00 - 15:30 hrs
Robert Mann	15:35 - 16:05 hrs
Anita Goel	16:10 - 16:40 hrs
Giuseppe Sermoniti	16:45 - 17:15 hrs
Questions and Answers	17:15 - 17:40 hrs

Session IV (Centrale Ristotheatre)

Paradigms vs. Values of Life

Paradigmi a confronto sul valore della vita

Chairman: Michael Cremo

Raad Hassan	18:30 - 18:50 hrs
H. H. Atmanivedana Swami	18:55 - 19:15 hrs
Maurizio Calipari	19:20 - 19:40 hrs
Vittorio Marchi	19:45 - 20:05 hrs
Banquet	20:05-21:35 hrs
Cultural Program	21:40 - 22:35 hrs
Nanak-Group presents <i>Tantra —Where time and space join</i>	

**November 13, 2004, Protomoteca Hall,
Campidoglio**

Session V

The Science of God

La scienza di Dio

Chairman: Father Maximilian Mizzi

Mikulas Blazek	09:00 - 09:20 hrs
Gianfranco Basti	09:25 - 09:45 hrs
Paul Haffner	09:50 - 10:10 hrs
Stefano Popa	10:15 - 10:35 hrs
Marco Ferrini	10:40 - 11:00 hrs
Questions and Answers	11:00 - 11:15 hrs
Break	11:15 - 11:30 hrs

Session VI

Theistic Interpretation of Empirical Observations on Life and its Origin

Interpretazione teistica ed osservazioni empiriche sulla vita e la sua origine

Chairman: Gianfranco Basti

Lothar Schafer	11:35 - 12:00 hrs
Giuseppe Sermoniti	12:05 - 12:30 hrs
T. D. Singh	12:35 - 13:00 hrs

Questions and Answers

13:00 - 13:15 hrs

Lunch

13:15 - 14:50 hrs

Session VII

God and the New Biology

Dio e la Nuova Biologia

Chairman: J. N. Srivastava

Made Wardhana	15:00-15:25 hrs
Maurizio Calipari	15:30-15:55 hrs
Lothar Schafer	16:00-16:25 hrs
Vittorio Marchi	16:30-16:55 hrs
Robert Mann	17:00-17:25 hrs
Questions and Answers	17:25-17:40 hrs

Session VIII (Centrale Ristotheatre)

**Scientific Exploration for the Existence of God
Esplorazione scientifica sull'esistenza di Dio**

V. V. Raman	18:30 - 19:10 hrs
Robert Mann	19:15 - 19:55 hrs
Banquet	20:00 - 21:15 hrs
Honourable Enzo Foschi	21:15-22:25 hrs
Cultural Program	21:30 - 22:20 hrs
Jamal Ouassini presents " <i>Incontro a Tangeri</i> "	

**November 14, 2004, Protomoteca Hall,
Campidoglio**

Session X

Panel on Darwin and God

Dibattito su Darwin e Dio

Moderator: Lothar Schafer

Pauline M. Rudd	
Luis J. Boya	
Giuseppe Sermoniti	
Massimo Brioli	
Gianfranco Di Segni	
Baba Gar-Diuf	
Break	11:30 - 11:40 hrs

Session XI

**Panel — Scope of Future Research on Life and its Origin
Dibattito - Prospettive sul futuro della ricerca sulla vita e la sua origine**

Moderator: T. D. Singh

Anita Goel	
Gianfranco Basti	
Mikulas Blazek	
Jagdish N. Srivastava	
Lothar Schafer	
Michael Cremo	
Vittorio Marchi	
Lunch	13:25 - 14:55 hrs

Session XII

Concluding Session

Sessione conclusiva

Summaries by Chairpersons	15:00 - 16:40 hrs
Concluding Keynote:	16:45 - 17:25 hrs
Vote of thanks: T. D. Singh	17:30 - 17:40 hrs

The Bhaktivedanta Institute sincerely thanks the Honorable Walter Veltroni, the Mayor of Rome for kindly granting the permission to hold the conference in the Campidoglio.

Speakers

H. H. Sri Saldas Baba *Chair, Sai Found. Org. World-wide, India*
Prof. Don Gianfranco Basti *Director of the STOC and Professor of History of Philosophy Gregorian Univ., Italy*
Prof. Francesco Bistoni *Microbiologist & Rector, Univ. of Perugia*
Dr. Mikulas Blazek *Physicist, Vice-Chancellor Emeritus of Trnava University, Trnava, Slovak Republic*
Prof. Luis Boya *Theoretical Physicist, Univ. of Zaragoza, Spain*
Mr. Massimo Brioli *Vaishnava Scholar, Italy*
Dr. Don Maurizio Calipari *Pontifical Academy for Life, Rome*
Michael A. Cremo *Researcher in human origins, B. I., USA*
Dr. Gianfranco Di Segni *Biologist of CNR, Judaic comm., Italy*
Mr. Jonathan Edelmann *Research Scholar, Oxford Univ., U.K.*
Prof. Marco Ferrini *President and Founder of CSB, Pisa, Italy*
Dr. Anita Goel *Department of Physics, Harvard Univ. & Division of Health Sciences and Technology (HST), MIT and Harvard Univ., USA*
Dr. Marco Gozzi *Theologian and Bioethicist, Italy*
H. H. Guru Shabad *Spiritual Guide of Sikh Dharma, India*
Prof. Rev. Paul Haffner *Pontifical Gregorian Univ. & Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum Univ., Rome; U. K.*
Prof. Raad Hassan *Islamic expert in Bioethics, Liban*
Imam Samir Khaldi *Theologian and Islamic Authority, Italy*
Dr. Robert Mann *Chair of Phys. Dept., Univ. of Waterloo, Canada*
Prof. Vittorio Marchi *Quantum Physicist, Italy*
Father Maximilian Mizzi *FOFMC, CEFID, Centro Francescano Internazionale per il Dialogo, Assisi, Malta*
Fr. Stefano Popa *Archibishop, Orthodox Church, Romania*
Prof. Laura Provera *Biblical Scholar of Gregorian Univ., Italy*
Prof. V. V. Raman *Professor Emeritus of Physics and Humanities at the Rochester Institute of Technology, USA*
Prof. Arij A. Roest Crollius S. J. *Emeritus Professor of Theology of Religion and Culture - Interreligious Dialogue, Gregorian University*
Dr. Pauline M. Rudd *Glycobiologist, University of Oxford*
Prof. Lothar Schafer *Physical Chemist, Univ. of Arkansas, USA*
Prof. Giuseppe Sermonti *Professor of Genetics, Italy*
Dr. T. D. Singh *Phys. Organic Chemist and Director, B. I., India*
Prof. Jagdish N. Srivastava *Statistician Colorado State Univ., USA*
H. H. Atmanivedana Swami *Hindu Theologian, U.K.*
Ven. Ghesce Sonam Cianciub *Buddhist Spiritual Master, Tibet*
Dr. Made Wardhana *Dept. of Dermatology, Udayana Univ., Bali*
Baba Gar-Diuf *Bay-Fall, Theologian-Senegal-Africa*

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Purpose of Congress

Most scientific studies and conferences on Life and its Origin are focused on examining whether life, a living cell could be a product of complex molecular reactions of proteins, carbohydrates, etc., through chemical evolution. However, the present knowledge of molecular paradigm of life alone is unable to fully describe and understand life and its origin, and the answer to the fundamental question, 'what is life?' is still quite far away. The purpose of this Congress is to examine seriously the deeper insights of life and its origin through the interdisciplinary approach of science and spirituality/theology incorporating the principle that life is a spiritual particle, by drawing inspirations from major spiritual traditions of the world. Also a part of the purpose is to carefully examine the scientific data from the religious viewpoint and to generate some new research projects for the scientific study of life, its meaning and purpose, consciousness and God.

Scopo del Congresso

La maggior parte degli studi sulla vita e la sua origine esamina la vita come un complesso di reazioni molecolari. Un simile approccio non è in grado di rispondere alla domanda fondamentale: "che cos'è la vita?". Lo scopo del Congresso è di esaminare la vita e la sua origine per mezzo di un approccio interdisciplinare di scienza e di spiritualità, introducendo il principio che la vita è una particella spirituale. Inoltre il Congresso si propone di analizzare i dati scientifici dal punto di vista religioso e di stimolare nuovi progetti di ricerca dello studio scientifico della vita, del suo significato e del suo scopo, della coscienza e di Dio.

With the personal best wishes of
President of Italian Republic, Carlo Azelio Ciampi

Under the Patronage of
Comune di Roma — Provincia di Roma — Presidenza del
Consiglio Regionale del Lazio — Assessorato alle
Politiche Culturali del Comune di Roma

With the best wishes of **FAO, UNESCO & WWF**
Sotto gli auspici di **FAO, UNESCO & WWF**



Bhaktivedanta Institute

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

on LIFE and its Origin

La VITA e la sua Origine

Exploration from Science and Various Spiritual & Religious Traditions

November 11
Angelicum Auditorium
Pontifical University
S. Tommaso D'Aquino

November 12 - 14
Protomoteca Hall
Campidoglio

Rome, Italy, 2004