

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



BHAKTIVEDANTA INSTITUTE

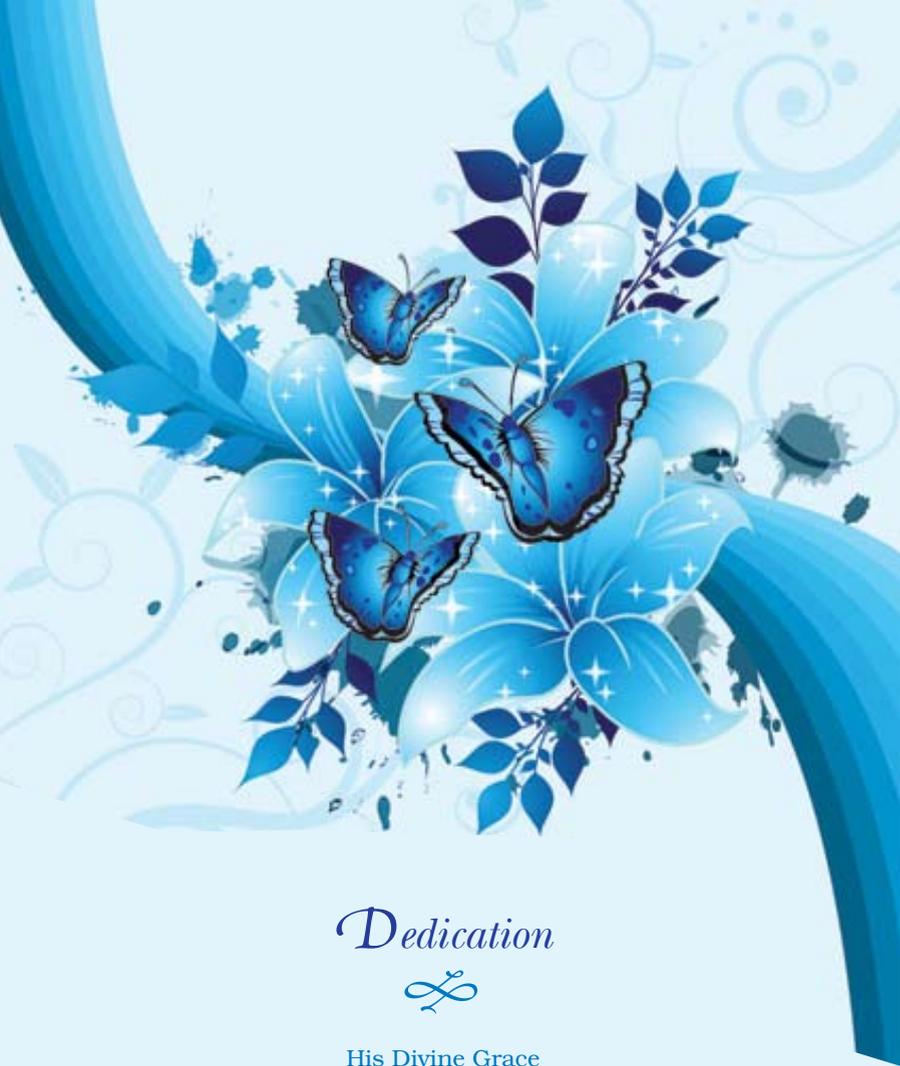
Kolkata

Promoting Dialogue between Science and Spirituality



THE DEEPER
ONE PENETRATES
INTO NATURE'S
SECRETS, THE
GREATER
BECOMES ONE'S
RESPECT FOR
GOD.

— Albert Einstein
Nobel Laureate in Physics



Dedication

∞

His Divine Grace
Sri A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
(1896-1977)

A Visionary Saint for the
Modern Scientific Age
&
Founder Acharya of
The Bhaktivedanta Institute

CONTENTS



- About us ♦4
- Founding Director ♦5
- Activity Report ♦6
- AISSQ Conference ♦8
- Seminars and Symposiums ♦12
- All India Students' Essay Competition ♦22
- Applied Spiritual Technology Workshops ♦23
- Science-Spirituality Courses ♦25
- Interfaith Initiatives Activities ♦28
- Book Fair ♦31
- Other Outreach Programs ♦34
- New Publications ♦36

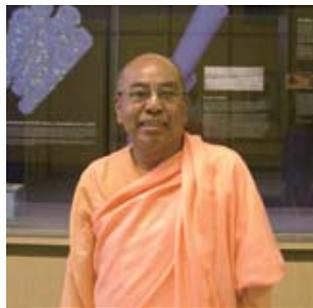
ABOUT US



Bhaktivedanta Institute is a non-profit organization working for the synthesis of science and religion for the benefit of humanity. Our goal is to have spiritual reality accepted and incorporated into scientific research and advancements, and to have scientific principles and methods integrated into the practice of spirituality. Bhaktivedanta Institute is a center for advanced studies in science and spirituality focusing on a consciousness based paradigm of Vedanta to resolve the mind-body problems, the questions of evolution, origin of life and the universe and many other philosophical, ethical and moral human concerns. The institute also promotes scientific, philosophical and religious dialogue among scientists, scholars and religionists of the world covering various common conceptual grounds of science and religion for the purpose of creating a better and harmonious understanding among all the people.

Founded in 1974, Bhaktivedanta Institute has made unparalleled efforts in bridging science and spirituality. The institute has organized numerous conferences, symposiums, seminars and workshops in various educational and research institutes throughout the country.

FOUNDING DIRECTOR



Dr. T. D. Singh

(His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Damodara Swami)

Physical Organic Chemist

University of California

Dr. T. D. Singh received his PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry from the University of California at Irvine in 1974. He is a scientist and spiritualist known for his pioneering efforts in synthesizing science and religion for a deeper understanding of life and the universe.

He has contributed papers in the Journal of American Chemical Society and the Journal of Organic Chemistry in the field of fast proton transfer kinetics in model biological systems using stopped flow technique and NMR spectroscopy. He also worked on gas phase reaction mechanisms using Ion Cyclotron Resonance (ICR) spectroscopy.

He was trained in Vaishnava Vedanta studies from 1970 to 1977 under Srila Prabhupada and was appointed Director of the Bhaktivedanta Institute in 1974. He has organized four International conferences on science and religion - First and Second World Congress for the Synthesis of Science and Religion (1986 & 1997), First International Conference on the Study of Consciousness within Science (1990), and Second International Congress on Life and Its Origin. Collectively thousands of prominent scientists and religious leaders including several Nobel Laureates participated. He has authored and edited several books including What is Matter and What is Life? (1977), Theobiology (1979), Synthesis of Science and Religion: Critical Essays and Dialogues (1987) and Thoughts on Synthesis of Science and Religion (2001).

Dr. T. D. Singh departed for the spiritual abode on 2 October 2006.

ACTIVITY REPORT



Conferences

- 9th All India Students' Conference on Science & Spiritual Quest 30th Oct – 1st Nov 2015, IIT Kharagpur, India

Seminars and Symposiums

- **June 2015** — “Scientific Search for God” at Bharatiya Samskriti Samsad , Kolkata
- **February 2015** — “Bridging East and West” at NIT Kurukshetra and NDRI Karnal
- **March 2015** — “Spiritualism and Science” at University of Engineering & Management, Kolkata, West Bengal; “What is Life” at University of Kalyani, West Bengal
- **April 2015** — “Physics and Mathematics of Life” at JIS College of Engineering, Kalyani, West Bengal Seminar on
- **August 2015** — “Science and Spirituality” at Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, Jharkhand; “Science, Environment, Ethics and Spirituality” at National Dairy Research Institute, Kalyani, West Bengal
- **November 2015** — “Moral Values, Ethics and Spirituality in Science and Technology” at The Institution of Engineers (India), Durgapur, West Bengal; “Science and Spirituality for Success in Life” at University College Of Engineering Osmania University, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

All India Students' Essay Competition

Topic: Contribution of Ancient India to Science

Prize distribution by Dr. Chandra Wickramasinghe

1st Prize Winner: Arokiya Raj, 3rd year Philosophy (B.A) ,Chennai, Tamil Nadu

2nd Prize Winner: Abhishek R. Deshpande, 4th year B.Tech, Phule Agricultural University, Maharashtra

3rd Prize winner: Rishika Behera, 4th year B.E. (Hons.), BITS Pilani

Applied Spiritual Technology Workshops

- **May 2015** — “Personality Development & Time Management” at National Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore
- **August 2015** — “Science and Spiritual Quest” at IIT (BHU) Varanasi

Science-Spirituality Course Programs

- **May 2015** — Summer School-2015 on ‘Science and Spirituality’ at Nabadwip, West Bengal
- **August 2015** — Course on ‘Mathematics and Spirituality’ at Department Of Mathematics, University of Kalyani
- **December 2015** — Winter School-2015 on ‘Science and Spirituality’ at Melkote, Karnataka

Interfaith Initiatives Activities

- **August 2015** — Participation in ‘URI East India Tribal Gathering’ at Susunia Hills, West Bengal
- **September 2015** — Participation in ‘International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons’
- **October 2015** — Participation in ‘The 2015 Parliament of the World’s Religions’ at Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

Book Fair

- **January 2015** — Book distribution at Kolkata Annual Book Fair and at Indian Science Congress, Mumbai
- **September 2015** — Annual Book Marathon all over the world

Spiritual Retreats

Visit to — Basara, Andhra pradesh; Yadagirigutta Andhra pradesh; Melkote, Karnataka, Udupi, Mangalore; Vrindavan, UP; agannath Puri, Orissa; Dwaraka - Gujarat

Other Outreach Programs

- Bimonthly Students’ Ezine and Weekly Quotes
- Correspondence course on Science and Spirituality

New Publications

- Life and its Origin— Exploration From Science and Spiritual Tradition
- Science & Spiritual Quest — Proceedings of 9th All India Students’ Conferenc
- God is a Person (Hindi Language)

9TH AISSQ CONFERENCE



9th All India Students' Conference on
SCIENCE & SPIRITUAL QUEST
 30th Oct – 1st Nov 2015, IIT Kharagpur, India

On October 30th, the conference was inaugurated by K. N. Tripathy, Governor of West Bengal. Among others present were Souvik Bhattacharya, Officiating Director, IIT Kharagpur; G. Satheesh Reddy, advisor to the defence ministry; His Holiness Sri Sri Sri Nirmalanandanatha Mahaswamiji, Sri Adichunchunagiri Mahasamsthana Math, Karnataka) B. D. Mundhra, Managing Director, Simplex Infrastructures Limited and H. P. Kanoria, Chairman, SREI Foundation, Kolkata.

The Governor appreciated the unique conference. He emphasized the need of more such conferences which serve as platform for integrating for science and spirituality and rising above the narrow view of particular disciplines. The conference had vibrant sessions with lectures delivered by finest authorities in the field of science and spirituality interface. The conference hosted students and professionals from more than 50 institutions in India. Apart from a Vedic Quiz Competition and two workshops on personality development and *Bhagavad Gita*, the conference hosted ten plenary sessions in diverse themes such as Quest for the Ultimate Reality; Science, Spirituality and Education; Young Minds Speaks; Spirituality in the lives of Modern Scientists; Science and God; Mystic Elements in Science and Spirituality; Spirituality and Health; Science and Technology in ancient India. The conference also hosted a dedicated session to address the views of the prize winners of the all India essay competition for students that was held in the past one year on the theme "Contribution of Ancient India to Modern Science".

Bhaktivedanta Institute also announced the launch of its Graduate Diploma and Certificate correspondence courses in science-spirituality for the betterment of understanding in the vast field of science-spirituality, thus paving the way for academic emphasis on science-spirituality in the modern education system.



Inaugural Session



Lectures on Science and Spirituality, Dinning and Discussions
at the 9th AISSQ Conference



Cultural Evening
at the 9th AISSQ Conference

SEMINARS



**Seminar on
"Science and Spirituality for Success in Life"
on 28th November 2015 at
University College Of Engineering Osmania University,
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh**



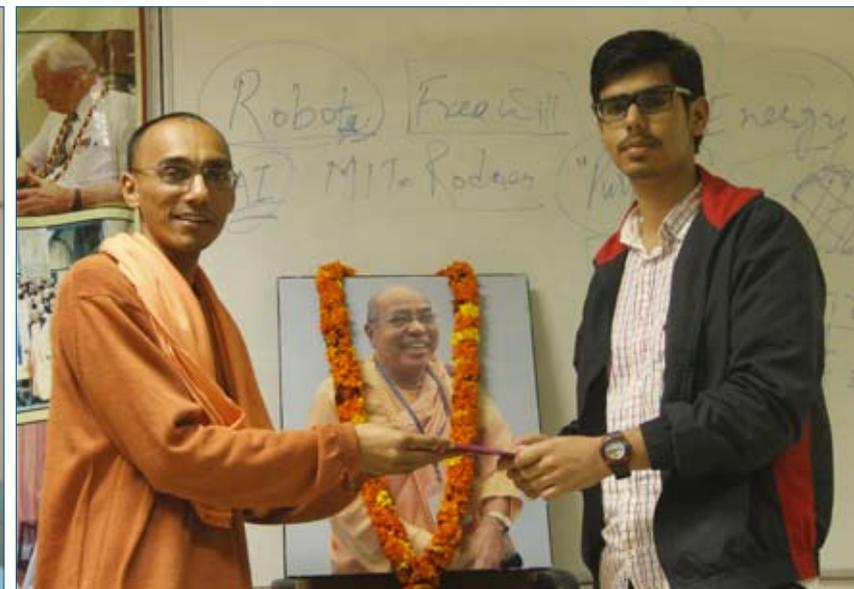
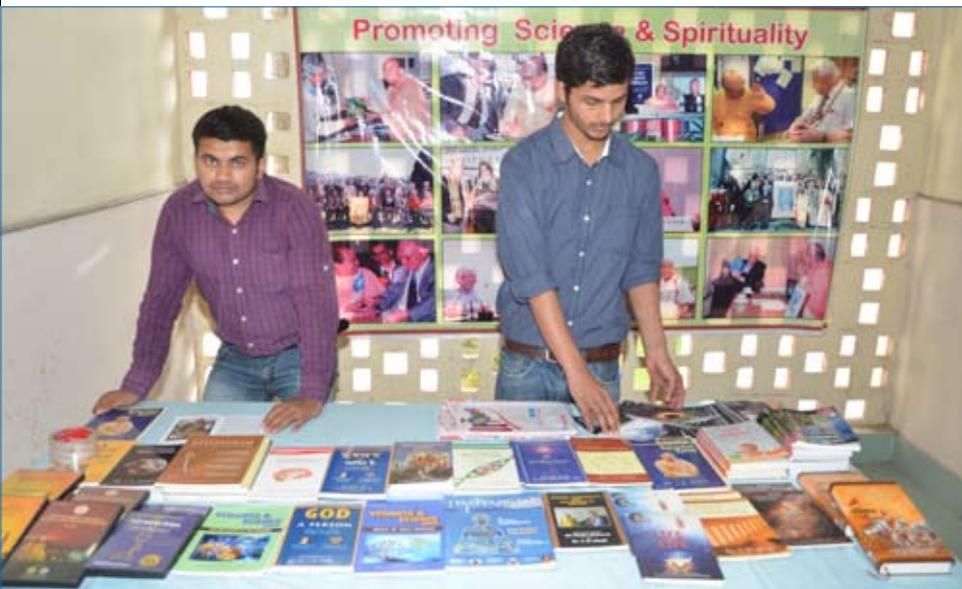


Seminar on "Scientific Search for God"
on 27th June 2015 at
Bharatiya Samskriti Samsad , Kolkata



Seminar on
"Bridging East and West"
on 18-19th February 2015 at
NIT Kurukshetra

Seminar on
"Bridging East and West"
on 21st February 2015 at
National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal



Seminar on
"Spiritualism and Science"
on 27th March 2015 at
University of Engineering & Management,
Kolkata, West Bengal





Seminar on "What is Life"
on 30th March 2015 at
University of Kalyani,
West Bengal

Seminar on
"Physics and Mathematics of Life"
on 2nd April 2015 at
JIS College of Engineering,
Kalyani, West Bengal



महान वैज्ञानिकों ने भी स्वीकारा है वेदांत को : वासुदेव

धनबाद. वेदांत को महान वैज्ञानिक न्यूटन व आइंस्टाइन ने भी स्वीकारा है. यह बात भक्ति वेदांत इंस्टीट्यूट कोलकाता के अध्यक्ष वासुदेव राय ने कही. उन्होंने अध्यात्म व विज्ञान में नजदीक का संबंध कैसे रहा है इस पर विस्तार से अपने विचार रखे. मौके पर आइआइटी कानपुर के पूर्ववर्ती फैकल्टी व वर्तमान में भक्ति वेदांत कोलकाता के निदेशक वरुण अग्रवाल ने- न्यूटन, आइंस्टाइन तथा ईश्वर : विज्ञान के जनक के आंतरिक बल तथा भौतिकी, रसायन विज्ञान व जीव विज्ञान की वेदांत के परिदृश्य पर चर्चा की. सेमिनार को अप्लाउड कैमिस्ट्री के रिसर्च स्कॉलर संतोष तिवारी प्रदीप गौतम, व जय प्रकाश तिवारी ने भी संबोधित किया.



आइएस्एम में 'विज्ञान व आध्यात्मिकता' पर सेमिनार में लोगों संबोधित करते (इनसेट में) वासुदेव राय.

फोटो : प्रभात खबर

Seminar on
"Science and Spirituality"
on August 2015 at
Indian School of Mines,
Dhanbad, Jharkhand



**Seminar on
"Science, Environment, Ethics and Spirituality"
on August 2015 at
National Dairy Research Institute, Kalyani, West Bengal**

Seminar on "Moral Values, Ethics and Spirituality in Science and Technology"

on 22nd November 2015 at

The Institution of Engineers (India), Durgapur, West Bengal



ALL INDIA STUDENTS' ESSAY COMPETITION



Topic: *Contribution of Ancient India to Science*
Prize distribution by Dr. Chandra Wickramasinghe

Arokiya Raj
1st Prize Winner
3rd year Philosophy (B.A) ,Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Rishika Behera
3rd Prize winner
4th year B.E. (Hons.), BITS Pilani



Abhishek R. Deshpande
2nd Prize Winner
4th year B.Tech, Phule Agricultural
University, Maharashtra



Workshop on "Science and Spiritual Quest" on 22nd August 2015 at IIT (BHU) Varanasi





Workshop on
"Personality Development & Time Management"
on 8th May 2015 at National Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore

*Summer School-2015 on
'Science and Spirituality'*
on 25th -31st May 2015 at
Nabadwip, West Bengal

COURSE PROGRAMS



Course on 'Mathematics and Spirituality'
 on 31st August-1st September 2015 at
 Department Of Mathematics, University of Kalyani

Mathematics & Spirituality



31 August
&
1 september
2015

π

$\frac{1}{\pi} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{9801} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(4k)! (1103 + 26390k)}{(k!)^4 396^{4k}}$

3.141592653589793238462643383279502884
1971 ...

Topics

Mathematicians about God
 Foundations of Mathematics
 Foundations of Spirituality
 Sightseeing Mayapur &
 Nabadwip

Register

www.binstitute.org
7278329800

Venue

Department of mathematics
Kalyani University, Kalyani.

Speakers

Prof. Sudipto Ghosh, IIT Kharagpur
 K Vasudeva Rao, IIT Kanpur Alumnus
 Varun Agarwal, IIT Kanpur Alumnus





Winter School-2015 on 'Science and Spirituality'

on 25th -27th December 2015 at

Melkote, Karnataka

INTERFAITH INITIATIVES ACTIVITIES



URI East India Tribal Gathering on August 8-9, 2015 at Susunia Hills, West Bengal





The 2015 Parliament of the World's Religions
on October 15 - 19, 2015
at Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA



**International Day for the Total
Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
on 26 September**

BOOK FAIRS



Kolkata Annual Book Fair on 30th January 2015





Bhaktivedanta Institute Contributors in our Publications

SCIENCE & SPIRITUALITY

Books for a successful Education

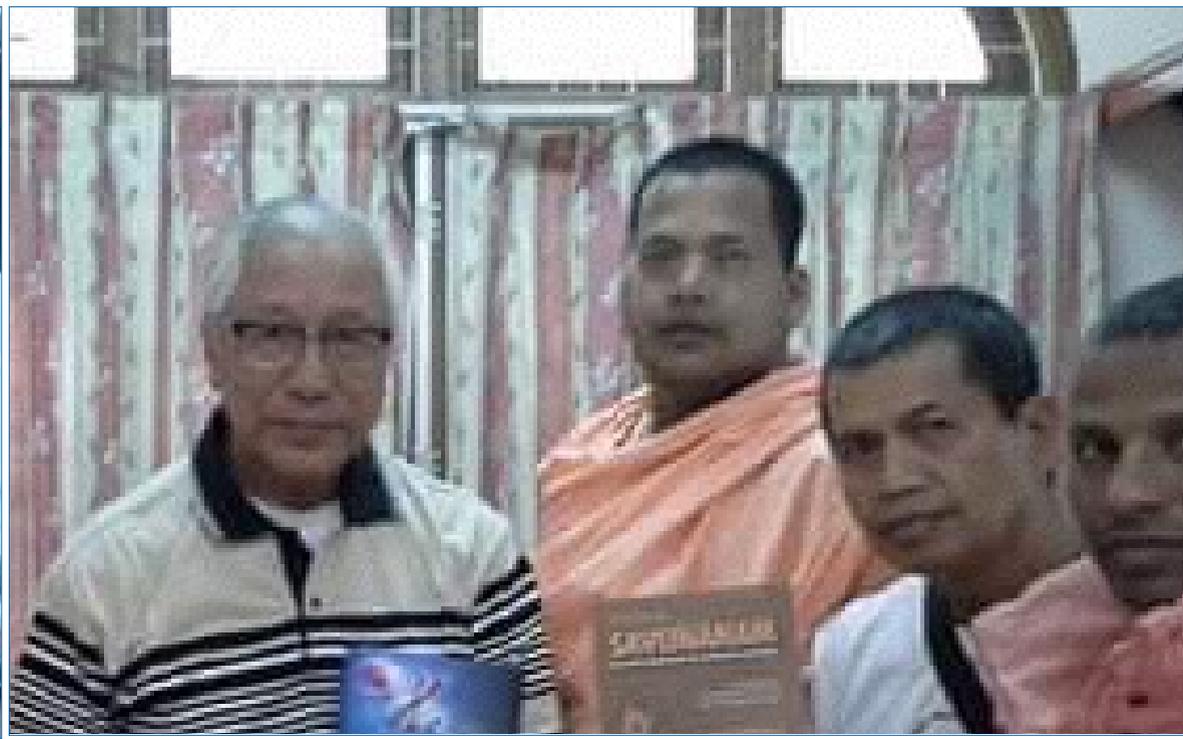
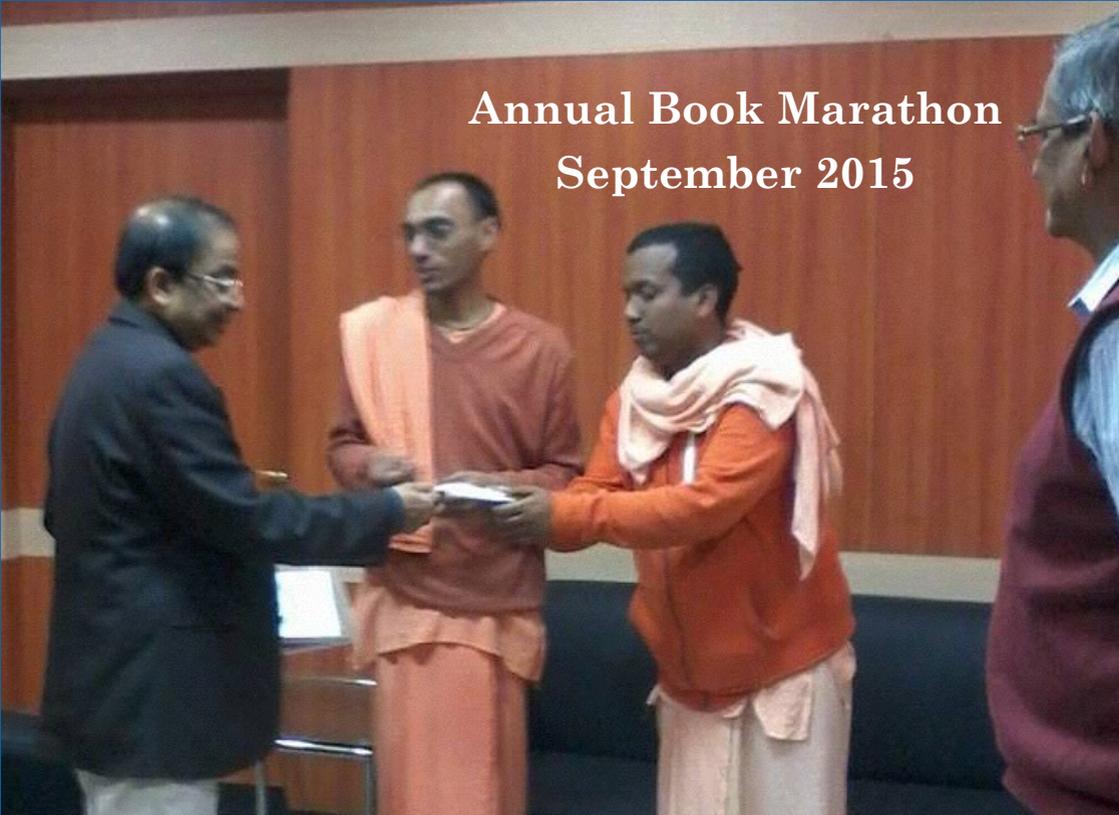
Valuable asset for students

1. Drive and dig deep through questioning their own assumptions and values, and those of others.
2. Be actively engaged in determining the directions the human take, through their own ideas and insights.
3. Test they have control over their own learning.
4. Feel confidence and self-esteem in an atmosphere of mutual respect during sharing of ideas.
5. Enjoy reflecting on their learning and on the value of what they are taught.
6. Develop cross-curricular thinking recognizing their knowledge crosses subject boundaries.
7. Develop new ways of thinking using philosophical and ethical tools.
8. Discover the amazing value of traditional levels of wisdom for everyday life and work.
9. Develop skills capable to understand situations and to solve problems at all levels, in a holistic way.
10. Give weight to mutually satisfying human relationships and respectful interactions with Nature.
11. Become responsible professionals, and citizens able to build more peace, health and harmony.



**Indian Science
Congress
on 3-7 January
2015 at Mumbai**

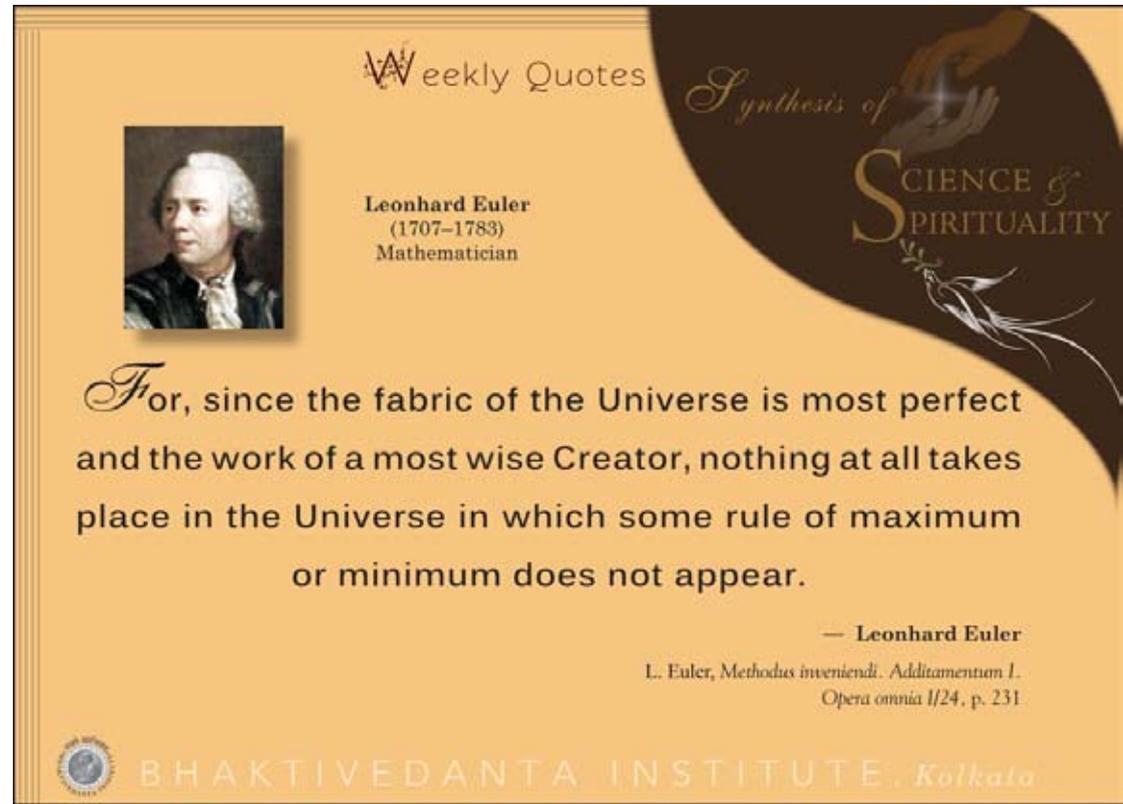
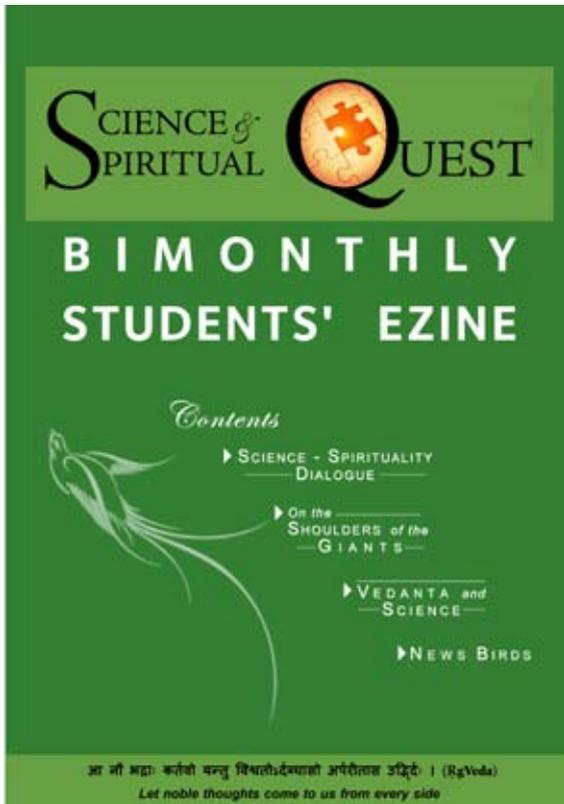
Annual Book Marathon
September 2015



OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS



Bimonthly Students' Ezine and Weekly Quotes



For Free Subscription, Please write to: bi@binstitute.org

Correspondence

Courses on

Science-Spirituality

Graduate Diploma in Science–Spirituality
Certificate Course in Value Education

Topics

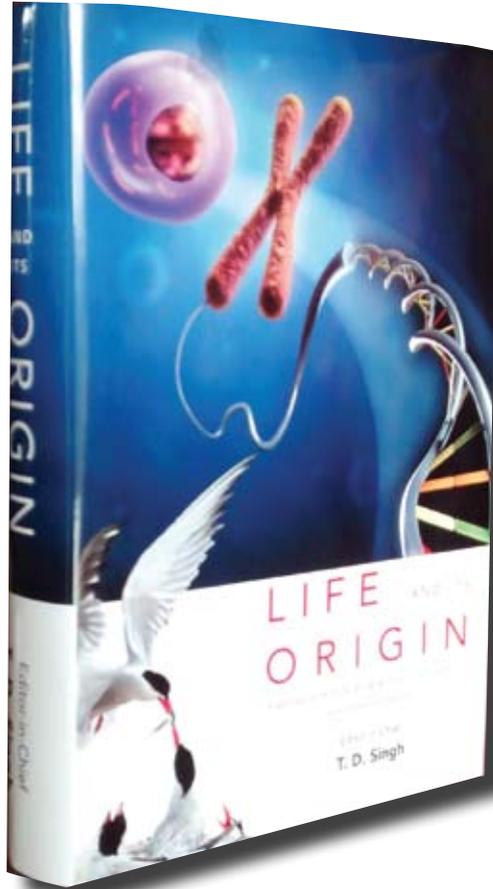
- » Cosmology and Cosmogony
- » Consciousness
- » Origin and Evolution of Life
- » Meaning and Purpose of Life
- » Nature of Reality
- » Holistic Personality Development and Management
- » Values and Ethics
- » Synthesis of Vedanta and Science
- » Glimpses of Bhagavata Culture

Unique Features of the Course



- ▶ First ever scientific and systematic study of spirituality
- ▶ Offered by IIT Faculty
- ▶ Unique blend of science and humanities
- ▶ Attainment of a deeper perception of the nature of reality
- ▶ Insights into science-spirituality multi-disciplinary research
- ▶ Holistic health management
- ▶ Becoming Holistic personality, time manager and human resource manager
- ▶ Practice Moral Values for ethical decision making
- ▶ Progress towards a culture of harmony and peace
- ▶ Learn at your pace

NEW PUBLICATIONS



LIFE AND ITS ORIGIN

Exploration From Science and Spiritual Tradition

26 Contributors including:

Werner Arber

*Nobel Laureate in Physiology or
Medicine, Switzerland*

Christian de Duve

*Nobel Laureate in Physiology or
Medicine, USA*

Brian D. Josephson

*Nobel Laureate in Physics,
Cambridge*

-3-

V. V. Raman

*Rochester Institute of
Technology, USA*

Chandra Wickramasinghe

University of Buckingham, UK

Lothar Schafer

University of Arkansas, USA

Jagdish N. Srivastava

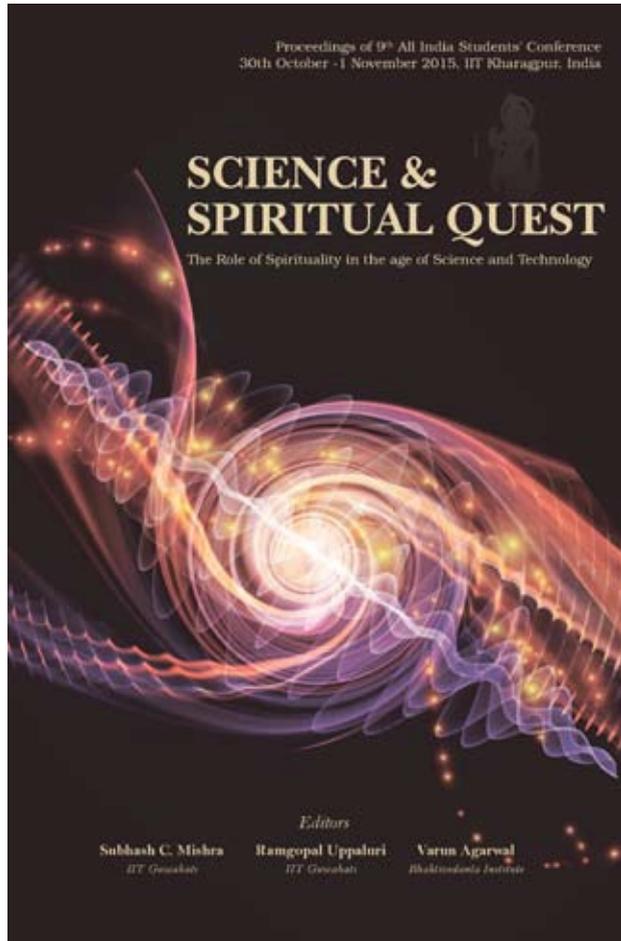
*Colorado State University,
USA*

Amit Goswami

*Center for Quantum Activism,
Eugene, USA*

Gerald L. Schroeder

*Aish HaTorah College of
Jewish Studies, Israel*



SCIENCE & SPIRITUAL QUEST

The Role of Spirituality in the age of Science and Technology

Proceedings of 9th All India Students' Conference
30th October - 1 November 2015, IIT Kharagpur, India

Notable contributions include:

Chandra Wickramasinghe N., *Cambridge and University of Buckingham, United Kingdom*

Christoph Benz Müller, *FU Berlin, Germany*

Ahindra Ghosh, *Formerly, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur*

A.K. Mukhopadhyay, *All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi*

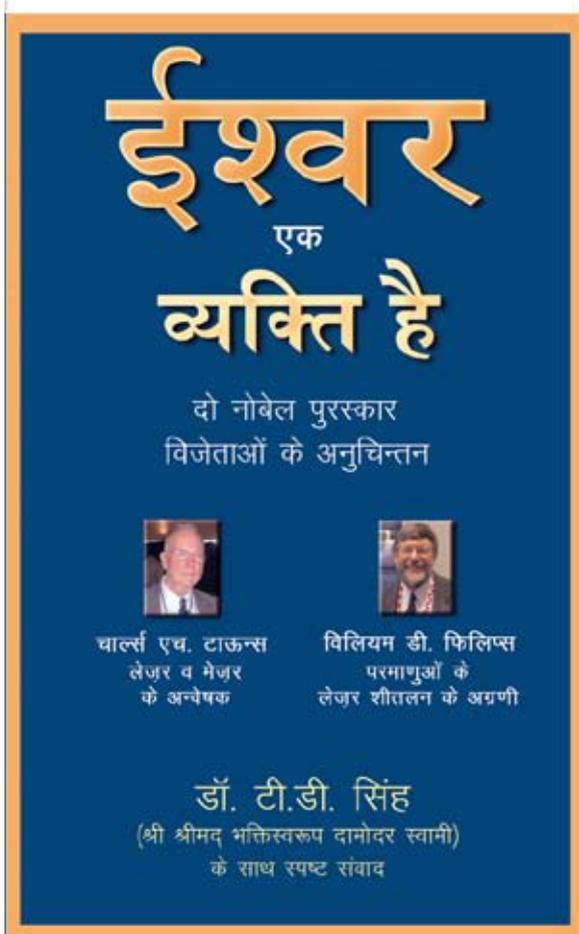
P.B. Sharma, *Amity University, Gurgaon*

H. P. Kanoria, *SREI Foundation, Kolkata*

V. R. Desai, *Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur*

Debashis Khan, *Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi*

Hare Krishna Mohanta, *BITS Pilani*



GOD IS A PERSON (Hindi Language)

This volume is an excellent presentation of two classic dialogues T. D. Singh had with two prominent Nobel Laureates in physics – Charles Townes and William Phillips.

Charles Townes received the Nobel prize in physics in 1964 for his discovery of laser and maser and William Phillips received the 1997 Nobel Prize in Physics for using lasers to cool and trap neutral atoms.

The fine reflections of these remarkable thinkers of our times presented in this volume will certainly help readers further shape their perceptions about the nature of the Ultimate Reality or God.

Bhaktivedanta Institute's Publications



Journals



Vedanta and Science Series



Proceedings



Books on Science - Spirituality



Magazine

DVDs



THE FIRST GULP FROM THE
GLASS OF NATURAL SCIENCES
WILL TURN YOU INTO AN
ATHEIST, BUT AT THE BOTTOM
OF THE GLASS GOD IS WAITING
FOR YOU.

— Werner Heisenberg
Nobel Laureate in Physics



BHAKTIVEDANTA INSTITUTE

*Kolkata * Bangalore * Kharagpur * Karnal * Hyderabad * Navadvip * Sambalpur*
Promoting Dialogue between Science and Spirituality

RC-8, Raghunathpur, Manasi Manjil Building, Fourth Floor, VIP Road, Kolkata 700 059, India
Tel/Fax: +91-33-2500-9018, 6091 E-mail: bi@binstitute.org Website: www.binstitute.org

