



# *Foundations of* **Physics & Spirituality**

**Quanta, Mind & Agency**

**February 21, 2026**

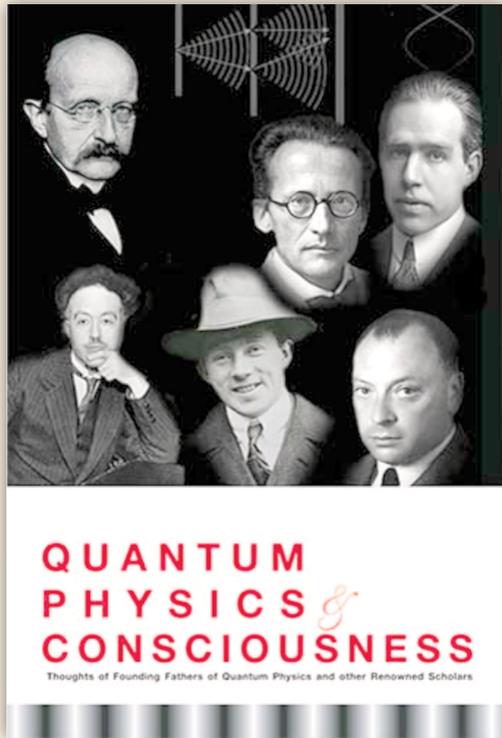
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Symposium on

*Foundations of*  
**Physics & Spirituality**  
Quanta, Mind & Agency

**February 21, 2026**

**Venue: Techno Main Salt Lake, Kolkata**

Organized by



Bhaktivedanta Institute  
Kolkata

In Collaboration with



Techno Main Salt Lake  
Kolkata



Dedicated to

**Dr. T. D. Singh**

(His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Damodara Swami)

(1937-2006)

*Scientist and Saint*

Founder Director, Bhaktivedanta Institute

&

Founder President, Vedanta and Science Educational  
Research Foundation

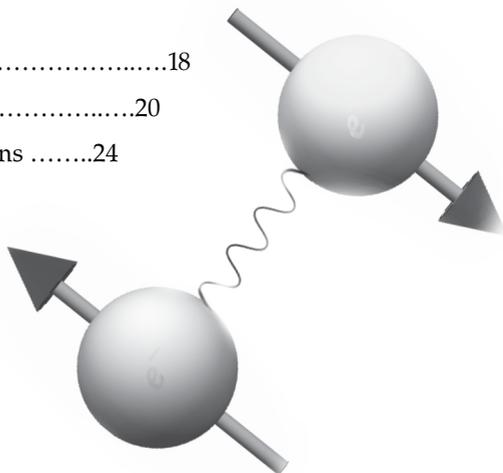


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# Welcome Address

Physics and spirituality at first thought appear to be two distinct fields with one hardly has anything to do with the other. However, if we ask questions deep enough, their connection will be revealed. Even a toddler who is unable to ask any questions wonders about the twinkling stars and the shining moon. Such is the mystery of our observable universe that it had a deep impact on our curiosity from which physics was born. The beauty in the visible universe and the beauty of the equations that describe it, both intrigue the deep thinkers – is beauty a fundamental aspect of the universe?



One of the research areas that concerns both physics and spirituality is the origin of the universe. Does the universe have a beginning and if it has, what was there before it? Did space and time exist before it? How did laws of physics originate? Another important area of concern is the origin of life and the ontology of consciousness. Do laws of physics lead to the creation of the first biological cell in the universe? Do quantum phenomena give rise to consciousness? Questions like these are profoundly physical as well as deeply spiritual. Einstein felt that if one is not in awe of the beauty and mystery of the universe, one is as good as dead, "The most beautiful emotion we can experience is the mystical. It is the power of all true art and science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead. To know that what is impenetrable to us really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty, which our dull faculties can comprehend only in their most primitive forms—this knowledge, this feeling, is at the center of true religiousness. In this sense, and in this sense only, I belong to the rank of devoutly religious men." [Rowe, David and Robert Schulmann (2007). Einstein on Politics: His Private Thoughts and Public Stands on Nationalism. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 229-230.] We are extremely delighted to welcome you

to join this important conference on physics and spirituality organized by the Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata in collaboration with Techno Main Salt Lake, Kolkata.

Techno Main Salt Lake, Kolkata is one of the reputed institutions in our country. We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Chairman and authorities of Techno Main Salt Lake and its department of physics for collaborating with the Bhaktivedanta Institute to organize this symposium on physics and spirituality.

Bhaktivedanta Institute was founded in 1974 by scientist-saint Dr. T. D. Singh, who obtained his Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from the University of California, Irvine, and Srila A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, a visionary saint for the modern age. The emblem of the Institute mentions a verse from Vedanta – Athato Brahma Jijnasa – Inquiry into the Absolute. The Institute thus promotes inquiry or curiosity into the meaning and purpose of life and the universe we live in. It thus focuses on the foundational questions of life, such as What is life? What is Consciousness? Why are we here? It believes that in search for the answers to these questions, a multi-disciplinary approach is necessary, where ancient wisdom and traditions will be a partner. The institute is celebrating its 50 years of Golden Jubilee these three years, 2024 to 2026. This conference is also organised as part of the 50 years Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Bhaktivedanta Institute.

I welcome all the distinguished speakers, guests, teachers, professors, and students to this symposium.

Thank you for joining us.

**Vasudeva Rao**

President, Bhaktivedanta Institute  
(Alumnus, IIT Kanpur)

# About the Symposium

The quest to understand reality has always inspired mankind. Modern science has been an important tool in exploring the Universe, which is revealed to be subtle and interconnected by the remarkable advancements in quantum physics. At the same time, spirituality, for millennia, has reflected upon consciousness, the nature of self, unity underlying diversity, and the nature of reality. In the recent decade, the dialogue at the interface of Science and spirituality has become increasingly relevant. Foundational questions like the role of the observer and agency in quantum physics, subjectivity, wavefunctions in physics, non-locality, free will and the nature of consciousness have transcended disciplinary boundaries and call for insights from diverse domains, including spirituality, which can offer a more holistic and integrated framework for understanding reality. The proposed symposium aims to build bridges between these complementary approaches and foster dialogue among scientists and spiritual thinkers.

*It would be most satisfactory of all if physics and psyche could be seen as complementary aspects of the same reality.*

— Wolfgang Pauli  
*Nobel Laureate in Physics*



# Abstracts & Bio-data of Speakers

Session 1  
**Inaugural Session**

Session 2  
**Foundations of Physics and  
Spirituality - An Overview**

## **2.1. Foundational Questions in Physics: Perspectives from Science and Spirituality**

Shri Varun Agarwal, *Director, Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata*  
(*Alumnus, IIT Kanpur*)<sup>1</sup>

From the days of Galileo and Newton to today's quantum technologies, physics has made tremendous progress in the last few centuries. We have come a long way from Newton's pulleys and steam engines to modern precision clocks and quantum-based appliances. We have explored various phenomena in nature and have got answers to many questions. It is a great triumph for humanity – the research, the hard work, and the achievements we have made. However, there are various foundational questions in physics, which have been puzzling physicists since the beginning of physics till today. These questions, starting from the origin and nature of 'force', the meaning of 'wavefunction' to the very nature of quantum information, touch the very boundaries of physics, and push us towards philosophy, psychology and spirituality. Astonishingly, many founders of physics were inspired towards ancient spiritual wisdom while deeply contemplating these foundational questions.

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The present lecture will explore some of these foundational questions in physics in the light of scientific and spiritual perspectives. The lecture will draw insights from the works and thoughts of the founding fathers of physics, such as Louis de Broglie, Werner Heisenberg, Erwin Schrodinger, Wolfgang Pauli, Max Planck, and Niels Bohr, among others. The author proposes the need for an interdisciplinary platform by bringing together physics, philosophy, psychology and Vedanta in search for answers to these fundamental questions.

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Varun Agarwal (also known as His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Vrajendrakumar Swami) graduated from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur), India obtaining his B.Tech in Aerospace Engineering (1999). He worked on a project of solar-powered aircraft and was ranked first in his entire department. However, his longing for something deeper about life which always bothered him finally culminated in meeting the illustrious scientist-saint Dr. T. D. Singh (His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Damodara Swami), the Founder Director of the Bhaktivedanta Institute.

Under his guidance, he began studying ancient Vedantic wisdom, dedicating himself completely for the cause of helping humanity through the interface of scientific temper and spiritual wisdom. He is currently serving as the Director of the Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata, India. Besides his various involvements, he frequently travels across India & abroad and interacts with scientists and scholars all over the world including world-renowned universities of Harvard, Princeton, ETH and Stanford to MIT. He is also the Editor of Bhaktivedanta Institute's reputed science and spirituality journal, Savijnanam.

## **2.2. Bell's Theorem and Free Will**

Prof. Manik Banik, *Associate Professor, S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, India*

Bell's theorem reveals a profound tension between locality, realism, and the statistical predictions of quantum mechanics. A less discussed but equally fundamental assumption underlying Bell's argument is measurement independence, often interpreted as the experimenters' freedom to choose measurement settings. In my talk, I will discuss the role of all the three assumptions (locality, realism, and free will) in Bell's theorem, clarifying their operational meaning and its distinction from metaphysical notions of determinism. We show how relaxing measurement independence reshapes the space of classical explanations, and we discuss the implications for quantum nonlocality, causal structure, and interpretations of quantum theory.

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Dr. Manik Banik is an Associate Professor at the S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata, working in the Department of Physics of Complex Systems. He earned his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Physics from Jadavpur University, followed by a Ph.D. in Quantum Foundations from the Indian Statistical Institute, awarded by the University of Calcutta. He has previously served as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai; a DST-INSPIRE Faculty at SNBNCBS; and an Assistant Professor (Grade I) at IISER Thiruvananthapuram.

Dr. Banik's research focuses on quantum information theory, quantum communication, foundations of quantum mechanics, causality in quantum systems, and emerging quantum technologies. He has received several recognitions, including the DST INSPIRE Faculty Award, SERB Start-up Research Grant, and the Chanakya Postdoctoral Fellowship. His work has been published in leading journals such as Physical Review Letters, PRX Quantum, and Physical Review A, contributing significantly to the understanding of fundamental and applied aspects of quantum theory.

Session 3  
**Information and Agency**

### **3.1. Revisiting Water Molecules**

Dr. Dheeraj Dube, *Assistant Professor, IIT Mandi, India*

Water is commonly treated as a simple, structureless solvent whose properties are fully captured by equilibrium thermodynamics; however, decades of research increasingly show that its behavior is strongly shaped by context, history, and interaction environment. At molecular scales, water participates actively in chemical reactions, mediates biomolecular recognition through structured hydration layers and conserved water bridges, and exhibits altered dynamics near interfaces, in confinement, and in complex or crowded systems. These deviations from bulk behavior suggest that water can transiently encode information about surrounding surfaces, solutes, and processing conditions through collective hydrogen-bond networks and modified relaxation dynamics. While such effects do not imply long-term or solute-specific “memory” in the classical sense, overlooking them can create conceptual and practical hazards in fields that rely on water as a passive medium, including molecular biology, medicine, materials science, and environmental studies.

This talk examines how assumptions about water’s simplicity may obscure subtle but functionally significant phenomena, and explores the boundary between well-established molecular physics and open questions concerning history-dependent behavior in aqueous systems. By critically distinguishing between demonstrable, environment-induced structuring and speculative claims, the discussion aims to clarify what forms of information water can retain, over what length and time scales, and under which physical constraints. Such an examination provides a scientifically disciplined framework within which both modern experimental observations and long-standing

empirical traditions that emphasize processing, context, and interaction history can be meaningfully re-evaluated.

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Dr. Dheeraj Dube Prakashchand is a faculty member in the School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology Mandi. His research lies at the intersection of materials science, mechanics, and molecular-scale modeling, with a strong emphasis on understanding material behavior using computational tools such as molecular dynamics simulations and density functional theory (DFT). His work spans both engineered materials and biomaterials, including biological and bio-inspired systems, where multiscale structure–property relationships play a critical role. In addition to fundamental research, he is actively involved in product design and translational engineering activities within the materials engineering domain, bridging scientific insight with practical application.

Dr. Prakashchand received his Ph.D. from Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, where his doctoral work focused on advanced theoretical and computational approaches to complex physical systems. He subsequently carried out postdoctoral research at University of California, San Diego and at Georgia State University, gaining extensive international research experience across disciplines spanning materials physics, biological systems, and computational modeling. His broader interests include interdisciplinary research that connects mechanics, materials, and biology, as well as the development of scientifically grounded frameworks for emerging engineering and technological challenges.

### **3.2. Conservation of Conscious Experience: A Quantum Informational Approach**

Dr. Roshan Tiwari, *Research Scientist, Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata (Alumnus, IISER Kolkata)*

The observation of the natural world generates unique conscious experiences in living beings, characterized by their inherently personal, subjective, and first-person nature. These experiences, often referred to as qualia, are fundamentally inaccessible from an objective or third-person perspective, as their qualitative aspects cannot be adequately captured or transmitted through classical bits of information. Emerging research suggests that such experiences may require a framework beyond classical physical description, possibly grounded in quantum information, which, like conscious experience, remains intrinsically unobservable and incommunicable. This limitation arises from fundamental principles of quantum information theory, particularly the No-Cloning Theorem.

This work explores the possibility that conscious experiences may align with quantum principles, particularly the no-hiding theorem, which states that quantum information cannot be destroyed or lost but remain redistributed within a system and environment. If conscious experience operates on quantum information principles, then its apparent loss, whether through natural processes like synaptic pruning or through external factors like traumatic brain injury do not imply complete loss but conservation of conscious experience as memories. Furthermore, we explore the possibility that conscious experience arises from the interaction between quantum information and agency where quantum information is the information content of the conscious experience and agency represents the first-person perspective and self-referential subject (aware of itself).

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Dr. Roshan Tiwari is a physicist driven by a lifelong curiosity about the deep nature of reality and consciousness. He currently works as a Research Scientist at the Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata, where he explores how ideas from quantum physics and information theory may shed light on the mystery of conscious experience. He completed his M.S. and Ph.D. in Physics at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata in 2023, after earning his B.Sc.

in Physics from Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, in 2014. During his doctoral studies, he worked across a wide range of topics—from spectroscopy and bio-inspired waveguides to microscopy, sensing, and optical trapping—publishing his work in leading international journals.

Beyond technical research, Dr. Tiwari is deeply interested in the philosophical and foundational questions: What is the role of information, observation, and agency in nature? How might the quantum description of the world connect with first-person conscious experience? At the Bhaktivedanta Institute, he is developing theoretical frameworks that bring together modern physics and insights from the Indian contemplative tradition. He carries out this work in close collaboration with Prof. Arun K. Pati, a leading quantum Information theorist and Director, Centre for Quantum Technology, KIIT, Bhubaneswar.

#### Session 4

### Science, Happiness, and the Wonder of Existence

#### 4.1. Rational Mysticism: Science and Our Sense of the Mysterious

Prof. Dr. Marcelo Gleiser, *Dartmouth College, USA*

In this lecture I will explore the history of our engagement with the cosmos and life, from Ancient Greece to modern science, as well as from different cultural contexts and world religions. In particular, I will argue that science is, together with religion, philosophy and the arts, an expression of our deep sense of awe with existence, its beauty, and its emotional challenges. I will also explore our relation to technology and the meaning of remaining human in the age of AI.

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Marcelo Gleiser is the Appleton Professor of Natural Philosophy and

a professor of physics and astronomy at Dartmouth College, where he is a leading figure in high-energy physics, cosmology, and astrobiology. A pioneer in the study of non-equilibrium quantum field theory, his technical research focuses on the dynamics of phase transitions in the early universe and the emergence of complex structures in nature. He is notably the co-discoverer of "oscillons"—localized, long-lived energy configurations that have profound implications for our understanding of field theories. His recent work applies information theory to measure complexity in physical systems, offering novel mathematical frameworks to investigate spontaneous symmetry breaking and the origins of life's chirality on Earth.

In recognition of his ability to bridge rigorous scientific inquiry with profound existential questions, Professor Gleiser became the first Latin American to receive the Templeton Prize in 2019. His distinct "biocentric" philosophy is grounded in scientific realism; he argues that the extreme rarity of complex life in the universe, as evidenced by modern astrobiology, confers upon humanity a unique cosmic significance and moral responsibility. A Fellow of the American Physical Society, he is the author of technically grounded yet accessible works such as *The Island of Knowledge*, *The Blind Spot*, and *The Dawn of a Mindful Universe*. His work eloquently presents science not as a cold collection of facts, but as a deeply human "engagement with the mysterious," creating a powerful dialogue between the sciences and spirituality for finding meaning in our exploration of the cosmos.

## **4.2. Science of Happiness for Uplifting Consciousness**

Shri Vasudeva Rao, *President, Bhaktivedanta Institute*

*(Alumnus, IIT Kanpur)<sup>1</sup>*

Consciousness research is a meeting point of science and spirituality. The founder acharya of the Bhaktivedanta Institute, Srila Prabhupadaji, expressed that unless there is individual awakening of

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consciousness, there is no hope for world peace. We all want to be a good human being but we fall short on certain occasions. In spite of our earnest endeavors to overcome negativity, we end up causing discomfort to others. What can make us a good human being? The answer lies in the science of happiness.

Each one of us wants to be happy without exception. In fact, every living entity wants to be happy. Happiness is a fundamental force in all living systems. In fact, happiness is the guiding as well as driving principle of all our actions. It is due to our misunderstanding about what makes us happy that we act in a negative way. By proper understanding of what makes us truly happy, we can correct our course. As Lord Sri Krishna explains in the Bhagavad-gita, *paraṁ dṛṣṭvā nivartate*, by experiencing higher happiness, we can overcome actions of lower happiness. There are different levels of happiness which can be broadly categorized as, sensual, mental, intellectual, emotional and spiritual happiness. Too much emphasis and focus on sensual and mental happiness is cause of disturbance in the lives of individuals and well as the society. A proper balance of different levels of happiness with an emphasis on higher levels of happiness, there could be peace and harmony in individuals and society.

**Sensual Happiness** is the happiness derived from the sensual pleasures. Sensual happiness is neither fulfilling nor sustainable because it is very transient in nature. Therefore, one whose primary source of happiness is sensual cannot have lasting happiness as it degrades the consciousness in fulfilling the unsatiated desires. Enforcement of ethics becomes necessary for social harmony. Animals are mostly on this level of happiness. Human beings should not confine themselves to this happiness alone but rise above it by experiencing higher happiness. Vedic literature advises that sensual happiness should not be the goal of one's life as it is obtained easily by the arrangement of the divine.

**Mental Happiness** is the happiness derived from the pleasure of having desired ambitious position or material comforts of luxury. This

happiness lasts little longer than the sensual happiness, but it also takes longer to get it. One who is on this level automatically gets sensual happiness apart from mental happiness. Therefore, one is better situated.

However, even after obtaining, one does not fancy about it for a long time and happiness diminishes soon as the consciousness degrades in preserving it or obtaining something better.

**Intellectual Happiness** is the happiness derived from discovering or understanding something new. One who is on this level, is not just satisfied with material position or comforts but invents or discovers something new. This happiness lasts longer as well as takes long time to achieve it compared to the earlier two happiness. However, inventions and discoveries does not happen every day and one does not have control over it. Since one on this level has earlier two happiness too included in one's life, one is better situated.

**Emotional happiness** is the happiness derived from the relationships to others and the society at large. In the above three happiness, one's own desires are more or less the focus of oneself. On this level one is concerned about the others who are dear to him or about the society at large. One undertakes above three happiness as means of expressing love towards one's beloved family members, friends or society. On this level of consciousness, values come out naturally. This happiness lasts much longer than the earlier three and includes earlier three. However, the relationships are not permanent and give as much pain when broken naturally or by force. Therefore, this happiness cannot be sustained forever.

**Spiritual happiness** is the emotional happiness placed in the spiritual context. One connects with the divine and undertakes all above happiness in proper way. One connects with the divine and with divine consciousness one conducts himself. He is not bereft of any of the above happiness. Since the divine and oneself are eternal, when one is situated in this consciousness, one attains lasting peace and

happiness. One sees divine connection with everyone else too. Unless one comes to the spiritual level of happiness one will not have sustainable happiness because no material happiness can give satisfaction a soul. This happiness is based on giving and therefore values are natural outcome. As scriptures say, brahma-saukhyaṁ tv anantam SB 5.5.1, spiritual happiness grows boundless.

Since human being is naturally inclined to become happy, being educated about the science of happiness, one can gradually rise oneself to the spiritual platform of happiness and have fulfillment and happiness in life. Human values will be natural outcome.

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Vasudeva Rao (also known as His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Vrajapati Swami) obtained his M.Tech. (Computer Science, 1998) from IIT Kanpur, India. After a brief tenure of working as a software professional, he decided to significantly contribute himself to the science spirituality interface under the able leadership and vision of Dr. T. D. Singh, the Founder Director of the Bhaktivedanta Institute.

Presently, His Holiness is the President of Bhaktivedanta Institute and actively promotes discussion on science and spirituality. He is also the Editor of Bhaktivedanta Institute's reputed annual journal, Savijñanam – Scientific Exploration for a Spiritual Paradigm and travels widely across India and abroad. His deep interest in the foundations of mathematics, fundamentals of computer science and logic and its relation to nature of reality as well as ancient Indian texts led him to interact and meet renowned scholars at Harvard, Princeton, ETH, Stanford, and MIT. He has delivered several talks on topics at the interface of science and spirituality.

## Exploring Great Minds: Inspiration for Young Seekers

### 5.1. Journey of the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle

Mr. Yenegu Nikhil, *PhD Scholar, Department of Chemical Sciences, IISER Kolkata*

This talk explores the intellectual and philosophical journey behind the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle, one of the deepest insights of modern physics. In the 1920s, Werner Heisenberg and Niels Bohr confronted a crisis: classical ideas of precise position and momentum could no longer describe the atomic world. Through intense discussions—sometimes lasting late into the night—Bohr and Heisenberg realized that nature itself sets limits on what can be known simultaneously. Heisenberg showed that position and momentum are not independent properties waiting to be measured; they are linked in such a way that increasing the precision of one necessarily blurs the other. This is not due to faulty instruments, but arises from the wave-like structure of matter itself. The uncertainty principle,  $\Delta x \Delta p \geq \hbar/2$  expresses a fundamental limit on how reality is organized.

Beyond its mathematical form, the principle forced a radical shift in our view of the universe. Instead of a clockwork world with perfectly predictable motion, quantum physics reveals a realm governed by probabilities, tendencies, and potentialities. This led Bohr to propose complementarity—that different experimental arrangements reveal different, mutually exclusive aspects of reality. The talk will then move beyond the technical principle to its deeper implications. If nature itself is not fully determined, what does this mean for causality, predictability, and even free will? Does quantum uncertainty open a space for genuine choice, or is it merely randomness?

By tracing Heisenberg's journey—from mathematical discovery to

philosophical debate—this talk shows how a principle about position and momentum ultimately challenges our understanding of knowledge, reality, and human freedom.

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Yenugu Nikhil is a fifth-year Research Scholar in the Department of Chemical Sciences at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata. He obtained his Integrated BS-MS degree in Chemistry with Physics minor from IISER-Kolkata in 2020. His research interests include Quantum Chemistry, Electronic Structure Theory and Molecular Reaction Dynamics. Apart from his academic studies, he has a keen interest in studies in the interface of foundations of science, science of mind and consciousness.

## 5.2. The Inner Odyssey of an Ordered Mind – Michael Faraday

Dr. Siddhartha Tiwari, *Bhaktivedanta Institute, Bhubaneswar (Alumnus, IIT Kharagpur)*<sup>1</sup>

What kind of mind does nature respond to? Are the laws of the universe disclosed solely through intellectual brilliance, or do they also require discipline, humility, and inner alignment? And can the pursuit of scientific knowledge ever be separated from the way one lives? Across human history, there has been an intuitive recognition that nature is not merely mechanical or chaotic, but responsive—revealing its order most clearly to a mind trained in patience, attentiveness, and moral restraint. At its deepest level, science becomes a dialogue between the observer and an underlying coherence that invites listening before explanation.

Michael Faraday's life stands as a luminous embodiment of this dialogue. Emerging from modest beginnings in a formative era of experimental science, Faraday immersed himself fully in natural phenomena. His disciplined observation and unwavering integrity led

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to the discovery of the unity of electricity and magnetism, transforming the foundations of physics. Yet these achievements were inseparable from a profound inner life shaped by faith, simplicity, and ethical clarity. Faraday's journey offers enduring lessons for young scientists: that character shapes insight, and integrity precedes discovery. When the mind is ordered and intention aligned, knowledge ceases to fragment—and begins to serve wisdom.

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Siddhartha Tiwari is an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, trained in materials science, with a sustained interest in the philosophical and ethical dimensions of scientific inquiry. For more than a decade, he has been closely associated with the Bhaktivedanta Institute, contributing to national-level dialogues on science, spirituality, and human values.

In parallel, he brings over fifteen years of cross-sector experience across academia, industry, and the corporate sector, working on science-based research, education, and institutional development. His work reflects a commitment to integrating intellectual rigor with inner discipline and integrity.





# About Bhaktivedanta Institute

The Bhaktivedanta Institute was founded by His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda in Vrindavan in August 1974. Śrīla Prabhupāda was one of the greatest exponents of Vedic culture in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He strongly felt that modern civilization is completely misdirected by scientific materialism and there is an urgent need to introduce the spiritual knowledge and wisdom of the *Bhagavad-gītā* and the *Śrīmad-bhāgavatam*, the essence of all the Vedic literatures, to the scientists, philosophers, scholars and students of the world. He noticed that all the prestigious academic institutions and universities of the world were teaching many different subjects but they had left out the most important branch of knowledge—the science of the soul. He envisioned that this spiritual knowledge of life would help restore an ethical culture for modern society. Thus, there would be hope for bringing lasting happiness and world peace. He felt that introducing this spiritual culture should be the contribution of India for the welfare of humanity. Śrīla Prabhupāda appointed his disciple Dr. T. D. Singh (Bhaktisvarūpa Dāmodara Swami) as the director of the Institute from its very inception and left several instructions to him to carry forward his vision.

The Bhaktivedanta Institute is a center for Advanced Studies in Science and Vedānta and focuses on a consciousness-based paradigm. This spiritual paradigm has a unique potential to resolve

the mind-body problem, the question of evolution and life's origin and many other philosophical and ethical concerns. Thus, this paradigm will have profound significance for science, religion, and their synthesis. One of the primary objectives of the Bhaktivedanta Institute is to present this paradigm for the critical attention of serious scholars and thinkers throughout the world. As such, the Institute supports a closer examination of existing scientific paradigms in cosmology, evolution, physics, biology, and other sciences. The Institute also promotes scientific, philosophical and religious dialogues among scientists, scholars and theologians of the world covering various common conceptual grounds of science and religion for the purpose of creating a better and harmonious understanding among all people. In order to achieve these goals, the Institute organizes international conferences regularly and publishes books and journals. Interested persons may contact the secretary of the Institute at:

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## *About*

# Techno Main Salt Lake

Techno Main Salt Lake (TMSL) stands as the premier flagship institution of the Techno India Group, strategically positioned in the heart of Kolkata's IT hub. Established in 2001, the college has spent over two decades defining excellence in technical education, currently offering a diverse portfolio of 12 undergraduate and 8 postgraduate programs. Approved by the AICTE and affiliated with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology (MAKAUT), the institution is home to a massive intellectual community of over 5,000 students and a dedicated faculty of more than 300 experienced academicians. Its reputation as a center of academic rigor is underscored by its consistent ranking among the top private engineering colleges in West Bengal, frequently appearing in the NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework) rankings within the 201–250 band for engineering.

The college's achievement in professional placement remains its most significant benchmark. TMSL boasts a stellar placement record, with over 80% of eligible students successfully transitioned into industry roles annually. The institution serves as a primary recruitment hub for global tech giants, including Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Cognizant, Wipro, and Infosys. In recent cycles, the college has witnessed impressive milestones, with the highest domestic salary package reaching approximately ₹12–15 LPA, while international placements have soared as high as ₹70 LPA for exceptional candidates. The campus is a sprawling 2.24-acre high-tech enclave, featuring 60+ state-of-the-art laboratories and a massive library housing over 80,000

volumes. Beyond numbers, TMSL's impact is felt through its vibrant innovation ecosystem, having incubated numerous student-led startups and securing multiple patents in fields like Robotics and AI. By integrating industry-ready certifications with a tradition of research excellence, Techno Main Salt Lake continues to shape the next generation of global technology leaders.



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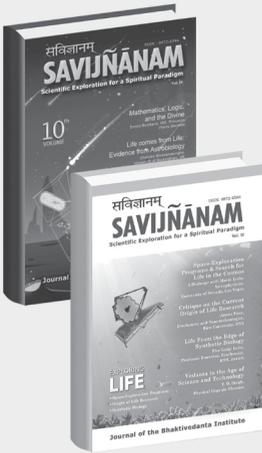
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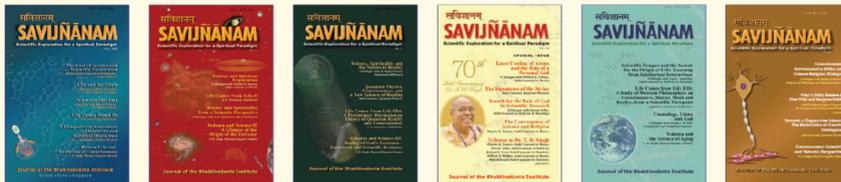
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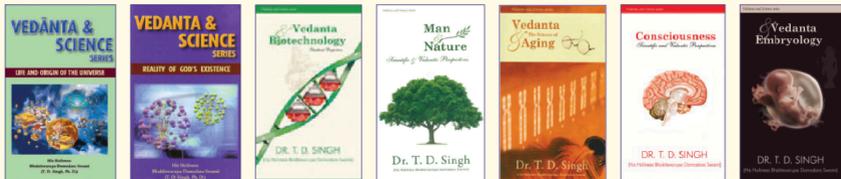
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