

Australia Hindu Conference 2021 - Sun 5 Sept 2021

The Program

[Registration](#)

Program:

1. 8:45 - 9:00 Log on
2. 9:00 - 9:50 Inauguration
3. 9:50 - 10:00 Introduction to the Conference
4. **10:00 - 10:30 Plenary 1 - Dr Raja Ram Mohan Roy: Discovery of the Original Boundaries of Nakshatras**
Abstract: Indian astronomical texts give the coordinates of the yogatārās or junction stars of nakshatras. These coordinates have been interpreted as polar coordinates, which depend on the position of the north celestial pole. Polar coordinates of a star should change with time due to precession. However, different astronomical texts written over many centuries give same coordinates for most yogatārās. This has resulted in Indian astronomers being called incompetent, who did not observe the positions of the stars with accuracy. When I read this, I knew that something is seriously wrong. I refused to believe that Indian astronomers were incompetent. I knew that there is much more to this than meets the eye. Could it be possible that the data was really in ecliptic coordinates that do not change with time and that is why Indian astronomers were not updating the coordinates of the stars? The fundamental investigation went deep into the origins of Indian astronomy and involved a reassessment of the boundaries of the nakshatras and the identity of the yogatārās. It resulted in the discovery of the original boundaries of nakshatras and zero points of Vedic astronomy. In this presentation, different coordinate systems used in astronomy will be discussed. Currently accepted and the original boundaries of nakshatras will be described. The identifications of the yogatārās of Aśvini and Revatī and their importance on ancient Indian chronology will be examined.
5. **10:30 - 11:00 Plenary 2 - Himanshu Pota - īsopaniṣad - Religion and the Laws of Nature**
Abstract: In eighteen short verses īsopaniṣad captures vast wisdom. Verses nine, ten, and eleven, in this upaniṣad provide a unique insight into the complete human being. Verse eleven is very direct in declaring that avidyā is the means to attaining immortality. The great masters, śaṅkarācārya and rāmānujācārya, take avidyā to mean karmakāṇḍa; Sri Aurobindo takes it as plain ignorance. In the language of today, avidyā can be taken to mean religion. This at once places within the embrace of religion the different faiths and opinions, made possible by avdiyā, that go by the label religion or otherwise. The great upaniṣad takes it further and emphatically declares that this avidyā or religion is the only way to immortality. This talk takes the view that the plain meaning of the upaniṣad leads to a transformation in thinking and expands the ability to comprehend diverse ideas like, Eastern and Western philosophy, culture and science, in one frame work. This wisdom from the upaniṣad may be the most potent seed to plant in the rugged Australian soil to grow the Hindu religion.
6. 11:00 am - 11.10 pm Tea Break
7. 11:10 am - 12.30 pm Parallel Sessions
8. 12.30 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch
9. 1:00 am - 3.00 pm Parallel Sessions
10. 3:00 am - 3.10 pm Tea Break
11. 3:10 am - 4.30 pm Parallel Sessions
12. 4:30 pm - 5.00 pm Concluding Session & Feedback

Author	Presentation time	Room	Title
McComas Taylor	11:10:00 AM	Education	Sanskrit Studies in the Australian Education System: Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Levels
Padmanabhan Krishnan	11:30:00 AM	Education	Mainstreaming Hindu Philosophy in Australian Universities
Lakshmi Narasimhan	11:50:00 AM	Education	Challenges in Teaching Samskritam in Australia
Bhuvan Unhelkar	12:10:00 PM	Education	Universities (Vishwa Vidyalaya) of Ancient India: Their contribution to humanity and their relevance to today's world
Meenakshi Srinivasan	1:00:00 PM	Education	Designing universal syllabus for Indian Languages.
Naveen Sharma	1:20:00 PM	Education	Hindu Contribution to Science & Medicine
Surinder Jain	1:40:00 PM	Education	Teaching Religion as a part of a regular curriculum in Australia
Suvarna Variyar	2:00:00 PM	Education	An Examination of the Decline in South Asian Studies Options in Australian Tertiary Education
Hon. Emma Hurst MP	2:20:00 PM	Education	The Animal Justice Party's approach to non-violence
Dr Naveen Shukla	2:40:00 PM	Education	History of Development of Ayurveda in Australia
Gavina Cossa	3:10:00 PM	Education	My experiences with Sathya Sai Baba: an intersection of faiths.
Bharati Kundal	3:30:00 PM	Education	The Saga Of Silencing Tolerant Indic Voices
Sowmya Sundar	3:50:00 PM	Education	Contribution of Language in upholding practices of Sanatana Dharma

Suresh Gurumoorthy	4:10:00 PM	Education	My Challenges/Experience in raising children with Dharmic values in Australia
Srinivasakrishnan L	11:10:00 AM	Ritual and Social	Murukan, the Tamil deity, as an aspect of Kumāra
Milind Sathye	11:30:00 AM	Ritual and Social	Resolving the dilemma of right and wrong: Krishna's way
Christopher Hartney	11:50:00 AM	Ritual and Social	Fighting Xenophobia and Unreason: The Mukti-Gupteshwar Temple, Minto, Its Long-Term Struggle Against Campbelltown Council and What 'Religious Freedom' Should Mean in Australia.
Bharathi Rengarajan	12:10:00 PM	Ritual and Social	WOMEN AND HINDUISM
Pallavi Sinha	1:00:00 PM	Ritual and Social	The sacred and significant role of Women in Hinduism
Sanket San	1:20:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Mantra Shastra and its scientific evidence
Praveen Jain	1:40:00 PM	Ritual and Social	JAINISM - A Way of Sustainable Living for Humans
Jayanti Gupta	2:00:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Varnashrama Dharma
Akhilesh Arora	2:20:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Implementation of Robotic Process Automation (Web Scraping and OCR) for the creation of Ayurvedic Indian Medicinal Plants Database.(A traditional knowledge database curated out of publicly available information on the web, texts and publications like Vedas and Samhitas in Sanskrit and other translated publications)
Skanda Jagadesh	2:40:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Understanding the Challenges in Introducing Sanatana Dharma to Contemporary Audiences
Jagdish Chawla	3:10:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Contributions of the Hindus to the Physical Sciences
Raghbendra Jha	3:30:00 PM	Ritual and Social	On some Misconceptions about Ramavatar
Karthi Keyan	3:50:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Karma and Yama: The Impartial Lord
Jagdish Trivedi	4:10:00 PM	Ritual and Social	Karma Yoga
Gopesh Sharma	11:10:00 AM	Philosophy	A TRANSCENDENTAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY OF HAPPINESS AS EXPERIENCED BY THE SADHUS
Deepa Singhal	11:30:00 AM	Philosophy	Jainism---from eyes of a Vaishnav married to a Jain
Kadbami Srinivasan	11:50:00 AM	Philosophy	Temple Architecture (Devalaya Vastu)
Khimji Vaghajiani	12:10:00 PM	Philosophy	Vidurniti
Dev Babu	1:00:00 PM	Philosophy	FOLLOWING THE DIVINE STEPS OF ADI SANKARACHARYA
Milind Sathye	1:20:00 PM	Philosophy	Language and religious experience: an exploration
Vivek Apte	1:40:00 PM	Philosophy	Gurudev Ranade's Philosophy of Rational Mysticism
Sachin Chaudhari	2:00:00 PM	Philosophy	Significance of Hindu Sant/Saint literature - key takeaways for the 21st Century
Aksharam Umamahesh	2:20:00 PM	Philosophy	Science of the aksharams, their importance to HINDU community and practicing them in Australian setup
Shyam Gohil	2:40:00 PM	Philosophy	Introduction to AksharPurushottam Darshan
Shashi Holla	11:10:00 AM	Practical Hinduism	'Swastika' -- Inexorable journey from Divinity to Impiety
Jayant Bapat	11:30:00 AM	Practical Hinduism	Hindus in Australia: An Uphill Journey. Are We up to Climbing and Crossing the Hill?
Karthik Arasu	11:50:00 AM	Practical Hinduism	Swastika - A Faith Symbol Demonised as Hate Symbol!
Guruswamy Jayaraman	12:10:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Culture-Specific Aged Care
Ashit- Mohan Maitra	1:00:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Will Hinduism Grow into 'the Universal Religion' in Australia?
Maran Nandan	1:20:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	HINDUISM IN ASIA PACIFIC REGION: PAST ,PRESENT and FUTURE
Mool Mantra	1:40:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Exposing façade of terming Hindu organizations as "fascists" by Communist - Islamic fundamentalist lobby.
Amruta Joshi	2:00:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Grounding as a way of healing
Amruta Joshi	2:20:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Emotional mapping with Chakras

Rajiv Ramakrishna	2:40:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	TOWARDS THE GOAL
Sarah Gates	3:10:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Hinduphobia and Social Justice for Hindus
Sarah Gates	3:30:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Hinduphobia and Social Justice for Hindus
Jay Shah	3:50:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Understanding the Kurukshetra down under and shaping the youth to become Arjunas in Australia.
Mritunjay Kumar Singh	4:10:00 PM	Practical Hinduism	Absence of narrative about the human and cultural genocide of Hindus among expatriate Hindus and the need for a parallel structure to tell our story:

Session Chairs

Session	Education	Ritual & Social Order	Philosophy	Practical Hinduism in Australia
11:10 AM - 12:30 PM	McComas Taylor	Bharathi Rengarajan	Deepa Singhal	Ashit Mohan Maitra
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Naveen Sharma	Jayanti Gupta	Vivek Apte	Mool Bhargava
3:10 PM - 4:30 PM	Leena Melag	Jagdish Chawla		Jayaraman Guruswamy