



Vivekananda Center for Consciousness Studies and Research
School of Indian Heritage
Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI),
(Deemed-to-be-University declared by Govt. of India under Section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
Belur Math, Howrah -711202, West Bengal

In collaboration with

Centre for Consciousness Studies, NIMHANS Bangalore
is organising an

INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

“CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES AND RESEARCH: ANCIENT AND MODERN”

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Swami Atmapriyananda is presently the Vice Chancellor of Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI), declared as a Deemed University by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) under University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956. He obtained his MSc and PhD in Theoretical Physics (for his work on elementary particle theory) from the University of Madras. Inspired by Ramakrishna-Vivekananda Ideology he joined the Ramakrishna Order of monks in 1978 and served as the Principal of a premier College of Ramakrishna Mission near Belur Math besides teaching Physics for 27 years. He took charge as Vice Chancellor of RKMVERI in 2005 which position he has been holding since then. He is widely

travelled and participates on invitation in conferences, seminars and symposia in India and abroad on the themes of his interest which are: Yoga-Vedanta, Ramakrishna-Vivekananda philosophy, interface of science and spirituality, consciousness studies as taught in Yoga and Upanishads, education for character-building and inculcation of higher values among the youth, etc.



Swami Sarvapriyananda is Minister and Spiritual Leader of the Vedanta Society of New York. Swami joined the Ramakrishna Math and Mission in 1994 and received Sannyasa in 2004. Before being posted to the VSSC's Hollywood Temple, Swami served as an acharya (teacher) of the **monastic probationers'** training center at Belur Math. He has served the Ramakrishna Math and Mission in various capacities including being the Vice Principal of the Deoghar Vidyapith Higher Secondary School, Principal of the Shikshana Mandira Teacher Education College at Belur Math, and the first Registrar of the Vivekananda University at Belur Math.



Swami Sarvasthananda is the Minister-in-Charge, Ramakrishna Vedanta Centre, Bourne End, Buckinghamshire SL8 5LF, U.K. near London. After graduating in Mechanical Engineering, he joined the Ramakrishna Order at its Headquarters at Belur Math in February 1987. Since June 1987 he served Shri Ramakrishna Ashrama, Rajkot in India in various capacities for more than 30 years. He offered his services in several major relief activities and rehabilitation projects after natural disasters like drought, flood, cyclone and earthquake since 1987 in Gujarat and served as the Head of the Rajkot Centre for nearly 7 years. Swami Sarvasthananda represented Ramakrishna Mission in an UNESCO Conference on "Youth and their Social Impact" held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in May 2017 and also in Tunisia in Sept 2018 respectively. Since June 2017, he has been appointed as one of the three official monastic representatives of Ramakrishna Mission to the UNESCO events wherever they are held from time to time in different countries of the world.



Swami Kaleshananda was initiated into spiritual life by revered Swami Ranganathanandaji Maharaj in the year 1999. As per the instruction from his Guru he joined the Ramakrishna Order in the year 2001 after completing his PhD program in Environmental Science from IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. He was ordained into Sannyasa in the year 2011 by revered Swami Atmasthanandaji Maharaj. Since 2007 he has been serving the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI) as the Controller of Examinations. Moreover he has been giving various spiritual classes to the students/devotees as a resource person in the School of Indian Spiritual Heritage of the University.



Dr. Bindu M Kutty is Professor, Dept. of Neurophysiology, and Incharge Professor and Coordinator of NIMHANS Center for Consciousness Studies. Her research focuses on understanding the perspectives of the cognitive reserve capacities of the brain and understanding of the Neurobiology of Consciousness along the illness to wellness spectrum in sleeping and waking brain.



Dr. Ravindra P N is a neurophysiologist by specialized training has a passionate interest in integrating Indian psychological aspects pertaining to Yoga (meditation) with neuroscience with special focus in understanding neuroscientific aspects of meditation and its effect on sleep & cognition.

Has many peer reviewed publications in national and international journals of repute. His work recognized with an National award from Association of Physiologist and Pharmacologist of India. Conducts seminar/workshops at various institutions and organizations on various contemporary subjects with integrating neuroscience with Indian psychology and

philosophy with special reference to Swami Vivekananda. Is a national faculty in conducting courses on sleep and sleep medicine. Has traveled extensively. As a founder Hon. Director of Swami Vivekananda study centre, Karnataka University Dharwad , a curriculum for a course personal and professional skill development an open elective course Karnataka University students. The curriculum based on the integration of neuroscience, yoga, Indian psychology and principles from Swami Vivekananda teachings. It was largely focused on personality development of an individual.



Dr Subrata Chattopadhyay is presently Professor of Physiology and Director, Planning Board of the West Bengal University of Health Sciences (WBUHS), India. Earlier, he was the Founder-Head of the Department of Physiology and Principal in-charge of the College of Medicine and JNM Hospital, WBUHS, Kalyani. He studied MBBS at Calcutta Medical College, did MD from Aligarh Muslim University and pursued doctoral and postdoctoral studies in the US. Later he studied philosophy and ethics of life science and medicine and passed the Erasmus Mundus Master of Bioethics magna cum laude from the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), St Radboud University (the Netherlands) and University of Padova (Italy). He also worked as Visiting Researcher at the University of Goettingen (Germany) and National University of Singapore. He is member of the editorial board of the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics and actively involved in interdisciplinary studies in life and health sciences. Author of many research articles in national and international journals, Professor Chattopadhyay published in 2015 a book on interdisciplinary studies

in Bengali এই জীবনের অন্বেষণে – বিজ্ঞান, ধর্ম এবং সত্যের মৌলিক প্রশ্ন (In Quest of This Life: Science, Religion and Fundamental Questions of Being). His publication in recent past (2019) is a book on Consciousness from interdisciplinary perspectives in Bengali which is entitled as চেতনাঃ বিজ্ঞান, ধর্ম ও দর্শনের আলোকে (Chetona: Vijnan, Dharma o Darshoner Aaloke) published by the Signet Press (Ananda Publishers), Kolkata.



Dr. Arkadeb Dutta is neuroscientist who is interested in understanding the role of Yoga, Vedanta-based philosophical learning on neural correlates of consciousness controlling positive psychological and behavioural traits using latest neuroscience tools in human brain research. The potential of the investigation underlies promises for attaining higher levels of human cognitive, emotional and physical performance and preventing life-style related psychological issues. In his postdoctoral research, he studied the activities of different subtypes of inhibitory interneurons in the dentate gyrus of hippocampus in relation to hippocampal local field activities in mice. Another important aspect of his research neural correlates of

visual and auditory saliency perception. He is interested to understand how Yoga, ancient Indian philosophy and tradition influence these representations.