



# ICPR NEWSLETTER

April 2007 - March 2008

ICPR CELEBRATES

**Silver Jubilee**



**Indian Council of Philosophical Research**

Darshan Bhawan

36 Tughlakabad Institutional Area

New Delhi - 110062



## From Member-Secretary's Desk

Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) has completed 25 years of its meaningful academic presence in the country and all through the years, it has striven to create an academically eventful history for philosophy and its allied disciplines in India. With the chief objective of promoting excellence, creativity and originality in philosophical research, ICPR has multiplied its activities and programs in all these years. It has taken a collective agenda of action forward to purposively step into the future to sustain the nation's glorious philosophical tradition spanning over three millennia.

The Silver Jubilee also signaled the new period of taking over the ICPR administration by Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, well known philosopher and psychologist who joined as the Chairman of the ICPR in June 2006. With the visionary and active leadership of our present Chairman, ICPR hopes to go from strength to strength and do its best to live up to the purpose for which it was designed and started. In order to mark the completion of twenty-five years of service of ICPR in promoting philosophical research in this country, a special function was organized on March 26-27, 2007 at the Indian Medical Association Auditorium, New Delhi. The Silver Jubilee event was also an occasion to honor the past Chairmen of the ICPR who

provided the leadership and nourished the ICPR during the last twenty-five years. Professor D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Professor R. Balasubramanian, Professor Mrinal Miri and Dr. Kireet Joshi were able to attend the function where they were felicitated by the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh. Also, to commemorate the Silver Jubilee the ICPR instituted the ICPR Silver Jubilee Life-Time Achievement Award to be given annually to a living philosopher in recognition of his/her distinguished contribution to philosophy. It carries an award of Rs.1,00,000/- in cash and a citation. The function also recognized the services of the ICPR staff who have served the ICPR during the last twenty-five years by presenting mementos to them.

We are happy to revive the publication of the *Newsletter* which for some reason had ceased from the year 2003. In reviving the *Newsletter*, it is our hope not only to use it as our interface with the public but also as a medium of communication among the philosophical community in the country and abroad. This issue of the *Newsletter* covers the period of the Council's activities from March 2007 to March 2008. With these words, I leave this *Newsletter* in the caring hands of all those who are interested in philosophy in India in general and in Indian philosophy in particular.

Godabarisha Mishra

## ICPR is Nation's Think-tank



Hon'ble HRD Minister Shri Arjun Singh Ji addressing at the Silver Jubilee Celebration

I am happy to be here this evening and join you in celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research. The ICPR owes its existence to the initiative of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Indiraji was a patron of learning and scholarship having grown up under the guidance of Pandit Nehru, the greatest visionary of Modern India.

Philosophy has become today an underrated and esoteric discipline. There is a misconceived notion that philosophy deals with the otherworldly matters and has nothing to offer to our day-to-day mundane existence. Nothing could be farther from truth. Not only does this discipline provide the moorings to the existence of any society, it also results in the manifestation of its underpinnings. Unlike in the West, philosophy in India is known for its practicality and life-applications, contrary to popular misconceptions that it is other-worldly, renunciatory and pessimistic.

In a conversation with Adlai Stevenson, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru observed: "There is no difficulty in choosing between the right and wrong if the question appears in that sense. It does

not always appear clearly that way. Between white and black, there are many shades of gray." The nation needs institutions that provide the intellectual climate that nurtures discriminating wisdom for identifying the different shades of truth and error. It is considerations such as these that led to the creation of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, which could function as a think-tank of the nation. This also makes the ICPR a unique institution with no known parallel in the world.

Professor Rao invited me a few months ago to inaugurate a discussion on a working paper he prepared for launching a major multidisciplinary research project on National Identity and Integration. Regrettably, I was unable to participate in it. However, I followed with interest the deliberations of the Working Group, which included several distinguished persons.

The notion of the nation state stands threatened in the face of manifest multicultural settings in many countries. In our country itself, people face the threat of being divided by caste, religion, region and language, all clouding the national identity. How may we secure the beautiful

mosaic of multiculturalism and at the same time preserve the distinctive identities of our people that would add to the grandeur and greatness of the nation? I quote Panditji again: “Though outwardly there was diversity and infinite variety among our people, everywhere there was that tremendous impress of oneness, which had held all of us together for ages past, whatever political fate of misfortune had befallen us.”

India retained its spiritual and cultural unity over millennia despite its being a multicultural society because of its common core spirituality and the binding values of love, altruism, truth and non-violence. It is imperative that these values be espoused and put into action at the national level as well. What we need is the inclusive community with distinctive Indian identity and the necessary values to foster and promote them.

Today, the country is on an accelerated economic growth path. This growth must necessarily be inclusive, encompassing the entire spectrum of our society with no exclusions. The need for inclusiveness mandates us to provide the entire citizenry with equity of access to opportunities that would become available with growth and development.

I understand that the ICPR has prepared a proposal for establishing the Indian Institute of Philosophy with a virtual campus and floating faculty. It is an innovative concept in higher education, an interesting blend between traditional campus-bound universities and the

distance mode of learning. I also note that you have plans for establishing regional centers to encourage and strengthen philosophy region-wise. We all know that there is a wealth of philosophical wisdom in our regional languages that needs to be identified, evaluated, translated and distributed across the country and beyond.

I am delighted that the ICPR instituted an award to commemorate its Silver Jubilee year to recognize distinguished lifetime achievements of Indian philosophers. I congratulate Professor Satchidananda Murty, distinguished scholar, teacher and an outstanding philosopher in post-independent India for being the first to receive the well-deserved award.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said in a speech in Chandigarh on 27th February 1959: “Let science grow, as it must and will. Let the arts and humanities grow also. Behind it all let there be that dynamism, that vibrant message, that creativeness without which life for the individual becomes drab and dull.” In bringing the ICPR into existence twenty-five years ago, Indiraji translated the vision of Panditji into reality.

I have followed with interest the work at the ICPR over the years. I congratulate the scholars and the staff of the ICPR for the good work done. Let us not rest on past laurels but move forward with vigor, vibrancy, dynamism, and creativity to justify the goal of becoming India's think-tank and the nation's wisdom source.



**Chairman delivering his speech during Silver Jubilee Function**



**Chairman felicitating HRD Minister during Silver Jubilee Function**

## Chairman's Vision of the ICPR



Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman ICPR, addressing at the Silver Jubilee Celebration

**H**on'ble Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh ji, Past Chairmen of the ICPR Professor D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Professor R. Balasubramanian, Professor Mrinal Miri and Dr. Kireet Joshi, Members of the ICPR Council, Governing Body and the Research Project Committee, Fellows of the ICPR, Distinguished Invitees, Members of Media, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As the Chairman of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, it is my pleasant privilege to welcome all of you to this very special function to celebrate the completion of 25 years of service by the ICPR to the nation in general and its philosophical community in particular. I am told that the ICPR was conceived and incorporated as early as in March 1977; but it was just an unborn idea growing in the womb of the Government of India for a number of years. Its actual birth took place in 1981, thanks to the foresight and wisdom of that great patron of learning Smt. Indira Gandhi. I was privileged to have discussed many things from parapsychology to politics with Indiraji, but interestingly ICPR was not one of them.

If we humans have nine months of pre-natal existence and then are expected to live to be hundred, the ICPR, with more than four years of

pre-birth developmental history, can be easily expected to live for full five centuries. Therefore, 25 years in its life may be considered to be no more than early childhood.

Since its inception, the ICPR has strived to serve the philosophical community in the country with the sublime goal of promoting philosophical excellence. As I see it, the ICPR is not and will not be the personal estate of one or more persons or groups but a consummate trust of the entire philosophical community in the country. Over the years ICPR endeavored to promote study and research in philosophy by (a) providing financial assistance to a large number of students and scholars to carry out philosophical research, (b) aiding in the conduct of national, regional and international conferences, seminars and workshops to discuss and exchange philosophical thoughts and (c) publishing over 100 scholarly books.

We had so far five accomplished Chairmen who took care of the ICPR in its infancy. Soon after its birth, Professor D.P. Chattopadhyaya was chosen by Smt. Indira Gandhi to care for the ICPR as its Chairman and Dr. Kireet Joshi joined him as the Member-Secretary. Together they nurtured the ICPR for the next ten years. Keeping their long association with the growing institution in perspective, if they were occasionally seen as

being over-indulgent, I think, it is entirely understandable.

I asked Professor Chattopadhyaya about (a) what he considers to be the important special things that ICPR accomplished, apart from its routine activities, during his tenure as the Chairman and (b) what in his view are the challenges ahead. He recalled two things as standing out prominently in his mind. First is the launching of the Project of History of Indian Science, Philosophy and Culture under his editorship. The Project envisages the publication of 100 volumes. The majority of them are already published or on their way to be out. The Project has since moved out of the ICPR and is now administered by the Centre for Studies in Civilization headed by Professor Chattopadhyaya himself. The second is the publication of the Journal of ICPR, with him as the Founding Editor. The ICPR continues to publish the Journal with Professor Daya Krishna as the editor. Professor Chattopadhyaya considers that the biggest challenge before the ICPR is to encourage interdisciplinary research relevant to the intellectual needs of the country, a suggestion with which I completely concur.

I asked the other Chairmen who are around the same questions. Professor R. Balasubramanian recalls a series of important publications that the ICPR was able to bring out during his time. These include (i) four volumes on Nyaya philosophy, (ii) four volumes comprising of presidential addresses given at the annual meetings of the Indian Philosophical Congress, and (3) nine volumes in the “Builders of Indian Philosophy” series. He also recalls numerous “Meet the Philosopher” national seminars that honoured a number of philosophers and provided an opportunity to young scholars to interact with them. Professor Balasubramanian would like the ICPR to concentrate on promoting and publishing research in Indian philosophy.

Professor Mrinal Miri was the Chairman during 1994-1997. During Professor Miri's time a large number publications were brought out by the Council. Professor Miri thinks that ICPR should focus on promoting philosophical research without diluting its resources in areas that are not intrinsic

to it. Professor V. Venkatachalam who is no more served during 1997-2000.

Dr. Kireet Joshi has a long list of activities during his tenure beginning with the new millennium. Among the new initiatives taken during this period are (1) Project on Consciousness and (b) Project of Philosophy of “Value-Oriented Education”. He also recalls the valuable essay competitions and young scholars' seminars and the celebration of International Philosophy Day in many universities in the country with financial assistance of the ICPR. Professor Joshi's vision of ICPR is to see it develop “as an extremely important instrument for the growth of the Indian renaissance”. He would like to see interdisciplinary research encouraged because “the very essential nature of philosophy is inter-disciplinary”. I entirely agree with this view.

Having heard all the good things my predecessors have done, you might be rightly wondering what I am planning to do and hope to achieve in the years ahead.

First and foremost, I would like to assure the previous Chairmen of the ICPR that we would continue all the good things they have initiated and are found to work well. But then we also have few other plans to build ICPR further and help transform it to function truly as the nation's think tank, an intellectual resource centre of the country.

We are counting on the help and support of our Hon'ble Minister Shri Arjun Singh ji who is relentlessly striving to not only promote excellence in higher education, but also make it accessible to all sections of our society, excluding none, by providing special inputs for the socially and economically disadvantaged groups and minority communities. He recognizes, I am glad to note, there should be (a) not only equality of access to higher education to all Indians, but also, more importantly, (b) all those who enter our centres of higher learning should come out as equals in what they have learned and what they may be expected to accomplish on graduation. When they enter, all students may not be equal in prior preparation; but, when they leave, all sections of students, whether SCs, STs or OBCs or others belonging to

disadvantaged minorities should come out as equals, well prepared to serve the nation. In other words, remedial education is equally important to make the policy of reservations work well.

The first on our agenda of action is the establishment of the Indian Institute of Philosophy. Unlike the IITs and IIMs the IIP would have a virtual campus and floating faculty. It would be a new and unique experiment in higher education incorporating the best in traditional campus learning and the distance mode. What do I mean by virtual campus and floating faculty?

The virtual campus, unlike the traditional campus-based institutions, would not have permanent classrooms built in concrete and constantly confined to one place. Rather it involves continuously changing networks using the state of the art IT infrastructure and communication facilities creatively connecting faculty and students in close intellectual bonds. The projected IIP with its floating faculty would not have permanent teaching staff but professors temporarily hired and in some cases on a part time basis to serve specific functions of monitoring and mentoring a select batch of brilliant students, ushering in a new generation of philosophers.

Second, we propose to establish regional centres of ICPR. These may be specially created or the ICPR may adopt some existing establishments and put substantial inputs into them. The purpose of these regional centres is not merely to expand the activities of the ICPR region-wise, but, more importantly, to exploit the regional philosophical wealth and wisdom to promote philosophical excellence. We all know that each language has its own treasure of philosophical works. These need to be identified translated, and brought to the attention of scholars around the world.

Third, as part of our endeavor to act as nation's think tank and intellectual resource, the ICPR has proposed a mega interdisciplinary project entitled "National Initiative for Integration and Inclusive Community". A working group consisting of some high profile academics, bureaucrats and NGO leaders discussed a working paper and prepared a

five year plan of research which is now under the active consideration of the Planning Commission for funding.

This project is warmly greeted by several scholars, researchers and policy makers with whom I happened to discuss it. Most seem to share the anxiety that the country is going through an identity crisis. The oneness and unity that bound people together during the freedom struggle, which Jawaharlal Nehru notes in his *Discovery of India*, appear to be missing now. What is it to be an Indian? In what does our Indianness consist? What is our national identity? How can we have an inclusive community and promote common good, overcoming the age old constraints that exclude several sections of population from participating in and sharing the benefits of political freedom and economic development?

It is increasingly felt that the Indian society is getting divided fragmented and polarized with growing alienation between groups and that regional, caste, religious and other narrow identities are gaining salience over national identity. If this tendency is allowed to continue, it is feared, there would be not only role confusion at various levels but grave and dangerous social unrest and dysfunction, threatening the very foundation of our democracy. The proposed project envisages in-depth interdisciplinary research on various aspects of the problem of national identity with the goal of identifying problems and suggesting solutions for bringing about an inclusive community and promoting common good we all seek.

Fourth, we at the ICPR recognize not only the importance of interdisciplinary research but also the need for inter-institutional synergy. Therefore, we are actively pursuing to undertake collaborative and cooperative activities with sister institutions. For example, ICPR is working with the Indian Institute of Advanced Study to organize in July this year a national seminar on the "Dialectics of Identity and Alienation." We have similar proposals for organising national seminars on the following topics: "Class Struggle and Common Good: The Evolution of Communism from Marx to Mao and Beyond", "Indian Psychology: Theories

and Models, Classical Philosophies of Mind and Cognitive Science and Celestial Love : Bhakti in Indian Traditions”.

As may be noted, all the above are in many ways inter-related activities that are intended to focus on the relevance of applied philosophy and interdisciplinary research for national development.

The ICPR will continue to vigorously promote philosophical excellence in the country. A part of this process is to recognize excellence. Towards this end, we have instituted an Award to be annually given to a living Indian philosopher recognizing his/her life time contributions to philosophy. I am delighted that you, the Hon'ble Minister Sir, will be presenting the first such award today.

Time does not permit me to speak on several other items in ICPR's agenda of action. I recognize that we can achieve what we hope for, only with your continued interest, guidance and help. Without them, many of our earnest proposals would simply remain sweet dreams without substance; and the ICPR would continue to serve marginally, distributing small sums of money to support this scholar and that fellow, this conference and that seminar. That would be far from accomplishing the high objectives and lofty goals associated with the establishment of the ICPR. However, I am confident and I have every reason to think that we can count on the Hon'ble Minister's blessings and guiding support to see these projects through.

Also, I want to acknowledge on this occasion, the cooperation and support we received from the officials of the Department of Human Resource Development from the Secretary to the Section Officer.

The ICPR is fortunate to have a very learned, cooperative and competent group of scholars as the members of its Council, Governing Body and Research Project Committee. I have received continuous support from all the members. In fact my confidence in attempting to move fast on so many fronts all too soon after taking charge as the Chairman is built largely on the perception of the value and strength of their cooperative guidance and supportive participation in the activities of the ICPR.

We are also fortunate to have hard working and committed staff who are sparing no efforts to share my dreams and move the ICPR forward in promoting philosophical excellence in the country. I wish to record my appreciation and thanks on this occasion to all our hard working staff and my colleagues in the Council, Governing Body and the Research Project Committee.

Permit me, Hon'ble Shri Arjun Singh Ji, to thank you for the confidence you have bestowed on me by entrusting me with the responsibility to lead the ICPR. I will do my very best to live up to your expectations.



HRD Minister lighting the lamp



Professor Y.V. Satyanarayana receiving the Silver Jubilee Award on behalf of Professor K. Satchidananda Murty

## New Additions to ICPR's Human Resource

### Professor G. Mishra joins as the Member-Secretary



Professor Godabarisha Mishra from University of Madras, Chennai joined as Member Secretary of the Council on 7th September 2007. Professor Mishra received his Ph.D. from the University of Madras in 1986 and his doctoral thesis was on "Philosophy of Upanishads : An Analytical Exposition". Earlier, he served as an Editor of the Journal of Oriental Research at Kuppuswami Shastri Research

Institute, Chennai. He has been a visiting faculty of Oxford University, UK and Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius. He has written four books and several articles on various aspects of philosophy in national and international journals and attended many seminars and conferences in India and abroad.

### Dr. S.K. Yadav and Dr. B. Barik join ICPR Family



Dr. S.K. Yadav joined ICPR as Director (Administration and Finance) on 23rd January 2008. Before joining ICPR, Dr. Yadav served as Assistant Commissioner of Municipal Corporation of Delhi. He also worked in NPC, New Delhi, JNU, DTC and the Indian Air Force in different capacities. Besides Ph.D. in Hindi, he possesses Master Degrees in Personal Management and Industrial Relation and in Sanskrit.



Dr. Bansidhar Barik joined as Programme Officer of ICPR on 1st January 2008. He got his Ph.D. from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on "An Examination concerning dualism in Rene Descartes and Deconstruction of Jacques Derrida". Before joining ICPR, Dr. Barik worked as a Lecturer at DIT, Dehradun for three years and worked as a Senior Fellow in different organisations and also was a General Fellow of ICPR. He has authored a book titled, *Rationalism and Post-Modernism*.

### National Integration and Indian Identity

The ICPR proposed a Major Research Project on National Integration funded by the Planning Commission during the 11th Plan period. The Project is meant to be a national initiative to explore the nuances of national integration and inclusive community and to understand the forces undermining them. The main objective of the project is to provide intellectual and fact based insights into the issues, the problems as well as the prospects, for promoting national consensus for the inclusive community.

The Council began the main activity of this project by being a nodal agency and initiated group discussions of experts in relevant and related areas and organized two workshops. A group consisting of high profile academicians, bureaucrats and NGO leaders met at the Darshan Bhawan and discussed at length for a major research project for promoting integration and inclusiveness in the Indian Society and for preventing growing cleavages and avoidable polarizations precipitated by narrow identities exploited by politics of divisiveness.

#### National Workshop on National Integration

As a follow up of the fruitful discussions at the first workshop, the Council had organized a National Workshop on the "Dialectics of the Inclusiveness and Exclusion: Exploring the Elements of

Exclusiveness and Ingredients of Inclusiveness and Integration in Indian Society". The workshop was organized in collaboration with Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla from 14-16 September 2007 which yielded fruitful results. The outcome of the deliberations will be published by the Council shortly so that the ideas could reach a wider audience and stimulate nationwide discussion. Intense discussions took place on issues like (a) what it is to be an Indian? (b) in what does the Indian identity consist? (c) how do we promote national integration and discourage the politics of divisiveness fed on narrow identities of caste, religion, region, language and other subordinate identities?

Shri Sitaram Yechuri, Hon'ble Member of Parliament inaugurated the Seminar and Professor Bhalchandra Mungekar presided over the Inaugural Session. The distinguished participants included Shri B.N. Yugandhar, Shri K. Padmanabhan, Professor Rajendra Prasad, Professor K.S. Chalam, Dr. Sudhir Kakar, Shri Abid Hussain, Smt. Trilok Karki Hussain, Professor Ashok Vohra and Professor C.V. Raghavulu. Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao introduced the theme of the seminar in the Inaugural Session and Professor G. Mishra proposed the Vote of Thanks.

### Seminars organized by the Council

In addition to the regular seminars proposed by scholars and supported by ICPR, the Council was proactively involved itself in conducting three national level seminars on its own.

#### Seminar on Bhakti

A National Seminar on "Celestial Love: *Bhakti* in the Indian Tradition" was organized by the ICPR in collaboration with Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh from December 5-7, 2007. There were 300 scholars from across the length and breadth of this country, with a



Inauguration of the Bhakti Seminar at Tirupati

few from abroad who gathered in Tirupati to discuss different aspects of *Bhakti*. Papers on themes like philosophical foundations of *Bhakti*, ramifications of *Bhakti* to the individual and society, understanding the various *Bhakti* movements from different regions, *Bhakti* as a *purushbartha* were presented and discussed. Also a special session on Annamacharya (this year being the Sixth Centenary year of Annamacharya) was organized as a part of the session.



Professor Nirbhai Singh speaking at the Seminar on Bhakti

Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao gave the Inaugural address. Professor G. Mishra welcomed the august gathering. Professor Anand Paranjape of Simon Fraser University, Canada gave the keynote address. Other distinguished participants included Dr. Srivatsa Goswami, Professor H.K. Satapathi, Professor K. Prahlada Char, Professor V. Kutumba Sastri, Professor K. S. Radhakrishnan, Professor Hrudananda Roy, Professor S.M.S. Chari, and Professor C. Ramaiah. The Valedictory Session was presided over by Shri Bhuman Karunakara Reddy, Chairman, TTD and Shri K.V. Ramanachari, Executive Officer, TTD delivered the Valedictory address. Professor G. Vedaparayana was the local coordinator of this seminar.

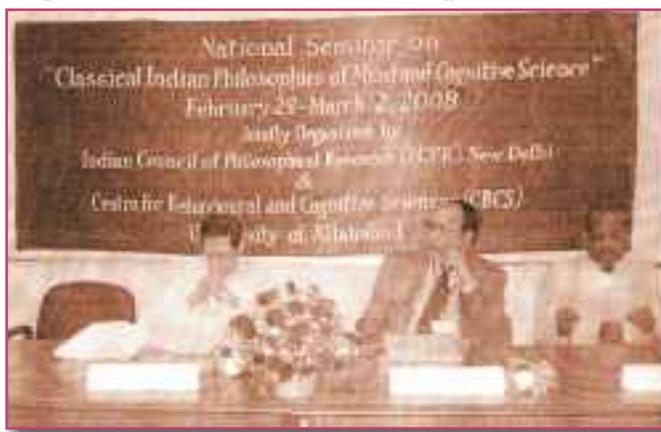
### Seminar on Indian Psychology

Another National Seminar on “Indian Psychology: Theories and Models” was organized by the ICPR in collaboration with SVYASA Yoga University in Bangalore from December 26-28, 2007. Nearly 300 participants who were there during this event discussed the relevance of classical Indian philosophy to current psychological theory,

practice and research. The moral of this exercise is that Indian scientists may not simply labor in the “catch up” game and merely replicate and imitate Western studies but engage in innovative new avenues of research leading to original contributions stimulated by Indian theories and models. Professor Anand Paranjape, Professor Janak Pandey, Dr. Sudhir Kakar, Professor Nagendra, Dr. Nagaratna, Professor Kiran Kumar, Dr. Mathias Cornellisen were a few of the large number of participants at the seminar.

### Seminar on Indian Philosophies of Mind

A major ICPR interdisciplinary seminar under the directorship of Professor Janak Pandey on “Indian Philosophies of Mind and Cognitive Science” was held at Allahabad University from February 29 to March 2, 2008. The seminar was jointly organized by ICPR and the Centre of Behavioral and Cognitive Science of Allahabad University. The objective of organizing this major interdisciplinary seminar was to focus on the relevance of classical Indian thought to current science as there has been a growing interest among philosophers and cognitive scientists to use the wealth of indigenous philosophical traditions to study mind and consciousness. The deliberations at the seminar were an enriching experience initiating an important dialogue between cognitive scientists and philosophers in the country. It was also a meaningful exposure for the philosophers to know more about new dimensions of scientific investigations that have important philosophical implications. The seminars attempted to bridge the



Professor P.K. Mukhopadhyaya, Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao and Professor G. Mishra on dais

gap between the Indian philosophies of mind and the contemporary cognitive science. The Inaugural Session of the seminar was presided over by Professor P.K. Mukhopadhyaya. Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Guest of the Seminar presented a thematic paper on Cognitive Science and Classical Indian Philosophies of Mind. The paper focused on the Indian philosophical approaches to cognitive science. The Valedictory Session of the seminar was chaired by Professor Nirupa Rani, Vice-Chancellor, Adi Kavi Nannaya University, The Chief Guest Professor R.G. Harshe, Vice-Chancellor, University of Allahabad extensively quoted Professor Rao's paper and highly appreciated this initiative of working together by the ICPR and the CBCS, AU. This seminar facilitated exchange of ideas between

cognitive scientists and Indian philosophers. However, there was an all over consensus that this interaction and dialogue should be carried out through collaborative projects. Professor Ramakrishna Rao proposed and invited scholars to work together to come up with proposals. He apprised the scholars that the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India has currently recognized cognitive science as the fourth pillar of knowledge and has a new "cognitive science initiative" to fund research. He further advised the scholars to take advantage of this opportunity which is also very supportive for Indian approaches to cognitive science.

Three major publications will emerge out of the proceedings of these seminars.

## Professor Daya Krishna Remembered



Presentation of bouquet to Vice-Chancellor Dr. N.K. Jain

The Council organized a National Seminar in memory of late Professor Daya Krishna for his invaluable contribution to philosophy in India in general and Indian philosophy in particular. It was held at Rajasthan University, Jaipur under the directorship of Professor Mrinal Miri during March 25-27, 2008. The title of the Seminar was "Daya Krishna: A Life Work in Philosophy". The Seminar was aimed at addressing Daya Krishna's contribution to an authentic and constructively critical understanding of classical Indian philosophical thought, by taking a comprehensive view of Dayaji's criticism of arguments, theories and



Professor G. Mishra addressing the participants

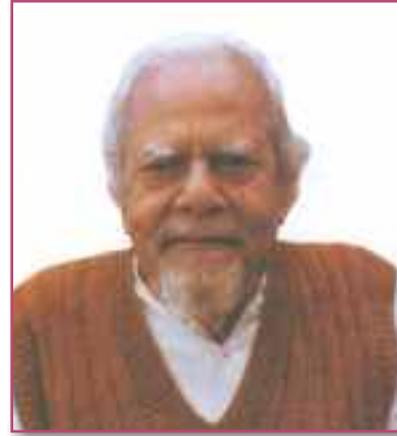
view points in the history of Indian thought scattered in the substantial body of his writings. Professor R. Balasubramanian, ex-Chairman, ICPR presented the Inaugural Address and recalled his association with late Professor Daya Krishna. Professor Mrinal Miri welcomed the gathering and Professor G. Mishra proposed a vote of thanks. Scholarly papers were presented by Professor Srinivasa Rao, Professor G. Mishra, Professor Sujata Miri, Professor Raghuram Raju, Dr. Shail Mayaram, Professor R.S. Bhatnagar, Professor Yashdev Shalya and many others who participated in the seminar.

## Life-time Achievement Awards



Professor K. Satchidananda Murty

The Research Project Committee of the Council voiced the need to institute a National Award for distinguished work in Philosophy in India, namely, “ICPR Silver Jubilee Award for Distinguished Life Time Achievement in Philosophy” to be awarded to a living Indian Philosopher and which does not require any project to be carried out by the recipient of that award. Considering that the year was the Silver Jubilee Year of the ICPR, the award was called the ICPR Silver Jubilee Award. The award amounts to Rs 1.00 lakh cash. The first such award was conferred upon Professor K. Satchidananda Murty.



Professor Daya Krishna

Shri Arjun Singh, Honorable Minister for HRD was gracious enough to participate in the meeting and present the award.

The Life Time Award for this year (2007-2008) was awarded to Professor Daya Krishna by a Committee which resolved unanimously to recommend him for the award of Rs1.00 lakh. Since Professor Daya Krishna was no more, the cash award was decided to be given to an Institution in India preferably Rajasthan University which is willing to provide a matching grant to institute a fellowship to be awarded to a philosophy student annually.

## ICPR Fellowships

### National Fellowships

The Council awarded National fellowships to two eminent scholars, Professor R. Balasubramanian, our former Chairman of the ICPR and Professor

P.K. Mukhopadhyaya, retired Professor from Jadavpur University to work on their projects entitled “*The Vedantic inquiry after Ramaranyakavi*” and “*Philosophy and Human Progress*” respectively.



Professor R. Balasubramanian



Professor P.K. Mukhopadhyaya

## Other Fellowships

### Senior Fellowships

Senior Fellowships were awarded to Professors Bijayananda Kar and Professor Ganesh Prasad Das for working on their projects entitled “Lokayata Darsana: A Reconstruction and Appraisal” and “Wittgenstein and Samkara on Religion and ethics: A Critico-constructive Study” respectively. Fifteen General Fellows and, forty six Junior Research Fellows were awarded for the year 2007-2008 to work on different projects as given below.

### General Fellowships

The ICPR awarded General Fellowships during the year 2007-2008 to the following Fellows:

Dr. Moyeed Ul Zafar

*Reason and Rationality in Hadith Literature: A critical study*

Dr. Pius V.T.

*Critical Hermeneutics and the Purview of a possible inter-cultural communication*

Dr. Deepak Kumar

*Bharatiya chintan mein manav ki niyati: Ek Sanskritik adhyayan*

Dr. Manoj Kumar Singh

*Tantrik bhasba ka sameekshanatmak adhyayan*

Dr. Autar Lal Meena

*The Doctrine of Social Justice in Indian Philosophy*

Dr. Sharad Kumar Mishra,

*Analytical Study of concepts of Atmatattva in Indian Philosophy: In special context of Atmatattvavivek*

Dr. Seema Bagdwal,

*Samakaleen paridrishya mein Vivekananda ke darshan ki prasangikata*

Dr. Sanjay Kumar Tiwari

*Khandana Kbanda Khadya ke parampaksha ka anthashtriyia vishleshan*

Dr. Manoj Kumar Tiwari

*Manushya Ke Swaroop Evam Uski Niyati: Yogvasisth Ke visisth sandharb mein ek anushilan*

Dr. Madhvi

*Bhagwat vedanta sutra evam gita bhasbaon ke tulna*

Dr. Lal Babu Prasad Yadav

*Mahatma Gandhi aur Ravindranath Tagore ke samajik Rajnaitik aur dharmik vicharaon ka tulnatmak adhyayan*

Mr. Chennamsetty Yagna Sudhakar

*The nature of consciousness Buddhist: Alaya-vijnana and phenomenology*

Dr. Vinita Pandey

*Brihadaranyak Upanishad mein pratipadit darshanik vichar aur bauddh math: Ek tulanantmak adhyayan*

Dr. Charu Awasthi

*Chetnaka Upanishadiya swaroop evam adhunik gyan: Ek sameekshatmak adhyayan*

Mr. A. Arivazhagan

*Doctrine of Pancakosa on the problem of enworlded subjectivity: Advaitic and continental philosophical perspectives*

### Junior Research Fellowships

The following scholars were awarded Junior Research Fellowships for the year 2007 - 2008

Ms Saba Parveen

*A critical study with special reference to Michael Foucault and Jacques Derrida*

Ms Arati Modak

*Adhunik Sabhyata ka sankat evam manav ki bhumika- ek darshanik vivechana*

Mr. Chakrapani Tripathi

*A critical study of Kantian epistemology*

Smt Kavita Bhatt

*Gherand sanhita ka darshanik adhyayan: Sbatkarma ke visesh sandarbh me*

Ms Chandra Rekha Soni

*Kierkegaard's and J. P. Sartre's vision of man: A philosophical Study*

Ms Lightha P

*Enhancing the boundaries of knowledge: Towards a synthetic model of explanation and understanding types of knowledge*

Ms Rajani Adusumilli

*Theory and practice of yoga in Upanishad: A study with special reference to pranayama*

Mr. Desh Raj

*A Philosophical study of the concept of mind*

Mr. Ramesh Chand

*Jain darshan aur baudh darshan mein gyan mimamsa: Ek tulanatmak adhyayan*

Mr. Unnava Sada Siva Rao

*The basic doctrines of the Buddha and of Patanjali: A comparative study*

Ms Poonam Singh

*Adbunik paripreksbay mein paramparik bhartiya naitik mulyon ki samichinatmak visblesnatmak adhyayan*

Mr. Arjuna Charan Behera

*Globalization and cultural change*

Mr. Vidyasagar

*Dharmshastriya evam nitishastriya parampara mein dharm evam niti ka bhed*

Ms Manjulata Jena

*The Ecological view of some tribal sects of Orissa: A philosophical study*

Ms Sneha Lata Singh

*Sartre evam Kierkegaard Ke darshan mein manviya mulyon ka tulnatmak adhyayan*

Ms Purni Thapa

*Globalization and welfare economy: A study from the perspective of human rights*

Ms Shrineta Pandey

*Yukti deepika mein pratipadit sankhya darshanik anusheelan*

Ms Megha Sharma

*Philosophy of Professional Ethics*

Ms Asmita Tiwari

*Swami Vivekananda aur Aurobindo ki drishti mein manusbay ka swarup evam uski niyati*

Mr. G. Srinivasan

*The problem of evil: A comparative study in Saiva Siddhanta and Christianity*

Mr. G. William Robert

*The concept of liberation in the philosophy of samkhya yoga as means*

Ms Sangeeta Singh

*Sankhy darshan mein purush evam jain darshan mein jeev tatva: Ek tulnatmak adhyayan*

Shri Gauranga Das

*Svadharma sadharana dharm and apad-dharma: A critical Study*

Mr. Sushabhan Deb Barman

*Communication and language: A critical study*

Mr. Mukul Bala

*Philosophical foundation of women's empowerment*

M. Tigripalli Bosu Babu

*The Social Philosophy of K. Satchidananda Murty*

Ms Joly Roy

*Ethics in Administration*

Mr. Rajiv Ranjan

*A study of the environmental philosophy in vedic Literature*

Sh. Gouranga Charana Behera

*Business and environment: The ethical interface*

Ms Supriya Sharma

*Aneeshvarvadi bhartiya darshan mein dharm ke avdharna: Ek visblesnatmak adhyayan*

Mr. Om Prakash Mehta

*Bhartiya darshan mein paryavarniya chintan ki sanatan parampara ka rachanatmak sarveksba*

Mr. Rajendra Prasad

*Aadbnik Bharatiya darshan mein Dr. Bhagwandas ka dharm Vichar Ek Sameekshatmak Pareekshan*

Ms Dipti Verma

*Bharatiya Mahilaon ke uttam mein Gandhi darshan ka yogdan Chhattisgarh ke vislesh sandharbh mein*

Mr. Rewant Ram Saien

*Samajik evam rastraparaka sad gunaon ke visesh sandarbh mein purano ka darsanika avalokan*

Mr. Umesh Saraf

*AAadya Shankaracharya Ka Aashukavitva Saanskritik Drishti Evam darshnik Bhimbon ka adhyayan*

Ms Nitu Kumari

*Paryavaraniya nitishastra ka visleshanatmak adhyayan*

Mr. Arjun Prasad Barnwal

*A critical study of ecological thinking in Buddhism*

Mr. Achhe Lal Yadav

*Concept of Humanism of Pandit Dinadayal Upadhyaya in contemporary context*

Ms Rupjyoti Dutta

*A Philosophy of Karma: Vivekananda and Tilak- A comparative study*

Mr. Padmadhar Choudhury

*Freedom, determinism and moral agent*

Ms Gitanjalee Bora

*Pragmatism: A study with reference to contemporary socio-cultural issues*

Ms. Priyanka Sarmah

*The concept of suffering in atheistic schools of Indian philosophy*

Shri Arun Kumar Singh

*Spirituality and scientific temper: A philosophical study*

Shri Sree Prakash Tiwari

*Manusmriti evam Yagyavalkya smriti mein varnit naitik siddhanton ka tulanatmak adhyayan*

Ms Prerika Agarwal

*Shaiv tantron ke vyakhyakara aacharya kshemaraja: ek adhyayan*

Ms Uma Dave

*Sant Shri Asaramji Bapu's Philosophy: A comparative study.*

## Announcements

### ICPR Fellowships For 2009-2010

Indian Council of Philosophical Research invites applications for the award of Senior Fellowship, General Fellowship, Junior Fellowship, Short-Duration Project and Residential Fellowship from eligible scholars for the year 2009-2010.

Details of the Fellowships and the Application form can be obtained by sending a request letter along with a demand draft of Rs. 50/- (Rupees fifty only) in favour of ICPR, New Delhi payable at New Delhi to the Director (Academic) or by cash payment of Rs. 50/- from the address mentioned above within one month from the date of publication of this advertisement. Application completed in all respects accompanied by necessary documents should reach to the Director (Academic) on the above address within two months from the date of publication of advertisement. Application form can also be downloaded from website [www.icpr.in](http://www.icpr.in). Such an application will be accepted only if a demand draft of the required amount is enclosed. The Council reserves the right to consider the name of any person for the award of a fellowship even though he/she may not have applied for the same. Reservation for S.C./S.T., O.B.C. and Physically Handicapped candidates will be considered as per instructions of Govt. of India.

### A Workshop on Nyaya, Mimamsa and Advaita Vedanta

A 15-day Textual Workshop on Nyaya, Mimamsa and Advaita Vedanta is scheduled to be held at the Chinmaya International Foundation, Kochi, Kerala from 15th to 29th December 2008. For online registration please visit [www.chinfo.org](http://www.chinfo.org). For participation and other details contact:

**Dr. K.H. Subramanian**

Chinmaya International Foundation  
Adi Sankara Nilayam, Veliyanad P.O.  
Ernakulam District, Kerala-682219  
Ph. No.: 0484-2747104, 2747307  
Fax : 0484-2749729  
E-mail : [director@chinfo.org](mailto:director@chinfo.org)

## Other ICPR Sponsored Seminars and Conferences

The following are some of the seminars, workshops and conferences for which the ICPR provided financial assistance:

- The “**82nd Session of the Indian Philosophical Congress**” was held at S.V. University, Tirupati from October 26-29, 2007. Professor B. Sambasiva Prasad was the local Secretary. The Congress was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor Professor S. Jayarama Reddy. The General Presidential address was delivered by Professor Kireet Joshi, Vice-Chairman, IPC. Around 200 papers were presented in the Congress under different sections.
- A National Seminar on “**The idea of religious 'other' in living Religions of the World**” was held on 30th November 2007 at Muzaffarpur under directorship of Professor R.P. Srivastava, Former Head, Department of Philosophy, Bihar University, Muzaffarpur Bihar who at present is a member of the Council. The focus of the seminar was about the role of religion in society.
- A National Seminar on “**Philosophical Approaches to Language-Perspectives from Classical Indian and Modern Western Thought**” was organized by Philosophy Department, Lucknow University from 10 - 12 December 2007, under the directorship of Professor Nirupama Srivastava. On this occasion Professor Nirmalangshu Mukherjee from Delhi University presented the key-note address and spoke on “Internal Significance of Sentences and Melodies”. He explained the minimal notion of meaning and suggested that we can enrich theory of meaning at logical level by exploring the internal significance of meaning. Scholars from both Indian and Western traditions presented their illuminating and enlightening philosophical views about language and reality and thus made the event memorable.
- Concurrently the three day National Seminar was organized by the Department of Sanskrit,

Maris Stella College, Vijayawada under the directorship of Dr. D. Rama Krishna during 10-12 December, 2007 on “**Yogic Methods of Enquiry**”. Participating in this seminar Professor V. Kutumba Sastry said that there is a



Prof. Kutumba Sastry addressing the participants at Maris Stella College, Vijayawada

cause and effect relationship and there are methods of inquiry which have been in existence ever since the times of Rigveda and Indian mind was able to probe into the cause of consciousness. Science and philosophy are interrelated and complementary. Professor V.N. Jha in his keynote address emphasized that justice can also be based on Dharmasastras. Hence, those should be made available to everyone. He also maintained that interdisciplinary approach is the only approach through which traditional knowledge can be made available to us.

- A National Seminar on “**Religion and its Impact on National Reconstruction**” was held at Department of Philosophy, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, under the Directorship of Professor (Mrs.) Kusum Kumari from December 10-13, 2007. Professor Shubhada Joshi emphasized the need for secularism. Professor Kusum Kumari in her keynote address opined that religion starts its journey with civilization. Religion consists primarily in moulding character and so the diverse evils threatening the fabric of our nation can be cured only by character building.



National Seminar on Religion and its Impact on National Reconstruction

➤ A National Seminar on “**Nature of Metaphysics**” was held on 14th & 15th December, 2007, under the auspices of Centre of Advanced Study in Philosophy, Utkal Univeristy, Bhubaneswar. Ninety eight teachers of philosophy from different universities, colleges of Orissa and outside the state, participated in the seminar along with the faculty, students of the department of the CAS. Professor A.K. Mohanty, Coordinator of the Centre of Advanced Study in Philosophy and Director of the seminar outlined the objectives and focal theme of the seminar. Professor R.C. Pradhan, Former Member-Secretary, ICPR delivered the keynote address. Professor Godabarisha Mishra, Member-Secretary, ICPR presented a paper entitled “Metaphysics of Consciousness” among many others.



Professor R.C. Pradhan delivering the keynote address

➤ An ICPR Special Symposium on “**Indian Psychology**” was held during the 17th Annual Conference of National Academy of Psychology at IIT Kanpur from December 17 to

19, 2007 under the directorship of Dr. Lilavati Krishnan. The eminent speakers who participated in this Symposium were Professor Srinivasa Rao, Professor S.K. Kiran Kumar, Professor Matthias Cornelissen and Dr. Suneet Varma. The six presentations covered historical, philosophical, theoretical, methodological and applied aspects of Indian Psychology, and touched upon several contentious issues raised by these aspects. They dealt with themes such as the roots of Indian Psychology in Classical Indian Philosophical schools, the contributions made by scholars disenchanted with Western scientific psychology, the various meanings attached to the label 'Indian Psychology', the rich theoretical aspects of psychology found in theories of consciousness and the self, the potential of Yoga as a research tool for various aspects of psychology, and how Indian Psychology can be applied to many of the problems of contemporary society. The urgent need for a systematic study of Indian Psychology, and making it part of the curriculum was highlighted.

➤ The 52nd Session of the Akhil Bharatiya Darshan Parishad was held from December 21-23, 2007 at Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeet. Session was organized by Dr. Ambika Dutta Sharma of Sagar.

➤ A National Seminar on “**Ethics and Epics: Reflections on Indian Ethos**” was organized by Dr. Kali Charan Pandey from January 5-7, 2008 at DDU Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur. The Seminar had presentations by



Professor R.P. Shrivastava lighting the lamp

about 30 scholars on different aspects of the theme. The theme of the seminar was introduced by Professor D.N. Yadav and he presented a working paper dealing with the epics and their relationship to ethical issues.

- The **20th Annual conference of All Orissa Philosophy Association** was held from 20-21 January 2008, under the directorship of Professor S.C.Panigrahi at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa. Professor Ashok Vohra, the General President of the session delivered a thought provoking talk on **“The Religious Other and His Excursions: An Analysis”**. He pointed out that it is the surface grammar of the language, and therefore the form of life that bewitches our intelligence into believing that multiplicity is real once we dwell in the depth grammar we find that there is an essential unity underlying the apparent diversity.
- A National Seminar was organized on **“Morality and Social Justice”** by the Department of Philosophy, B.S. College, Danapur, Bihar from January 27-29, 2008 under the directorship of Professor Abha Singh. The seminar had 12 sessions which were decided thematically. Eminent scholars were present along with the participants to make the event a great success.
- A National Seminar on **Philosophy of Logic and Language** was organized by Department of Philosophy, University of Burdwan from 6-8 February 2008. Professor Ashok Vohra, Delhi University delivered the Keynote address and highlighted different aspects of Philosophy of Language, Indian and Western. There were six academic sessions during this period on different aspects of the theme. Participants were from all over the country. The seminar was in a way fulfilling its objective of enriching the M.A., M. Phil Students, research scholars, teachers of the undergraduate colleges along with the faculty members of P.G. Departments. Since Philosophy of Logic and also Philosophy of Language overlap with many other areas as well as recent trends in philosophy, the discussions at the seminar helped the

participants to get acquainted with recent developments in Philosophy.

- A National Seminar on **Jiddu Krishnamurti's Philosophy and the Future of Humanity** was organized by the ICPR at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati under the Directorship of Professor Vedaparayana from 7-9 February 2008. The Seminar focused on the need to propagate and practice the philosophy of JK who advocated for shedding the past to embrace the present in its pristine forms to achieve total inner transformation.



Deliberations at the Jiddu Krishnamurti Seminar in progress

In the keynote address Radhika Herzberger, Director of Rishi Valley Education Centre explained how man-made crises such as climate change, nuclear proliferation etc. have landed humanity in life-threatening situations. She felt that religion as it is practiced today was responsible for making deep divide in humanity and indicated that knowledge needed to be de-associated from religion. She said that the idea of questioning oneself – the very essence of J.K.'s Philosophy will activate the spirit of doubt and act as springboard in acquiring knowledge.

Professor C. Ramaiah, Member, ICPR said JK had nothing to hide and presented himself transparently in his school of thought. Being not identified by any religion made him think afresh. JK believed in starting the thought process with an empty mind, which was not a blank mind, but a fresh and receptive mind.

Professor K. Venkata Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, S.K. University, Professor P.V. Arunachalam, Dravidiyan University, Director of SV Central

Library and Research Centre, and Hans Herzbergar of Canada, were the participants. Professor G. Mishra, Member-Secretary, ICPR attended the Seminar and apart from presenting a paper, presided over the Valedictory Session.

- The Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh Darshan Parishad was held from 11-12 February 2008 at Jhanjgir (MP).



A session at Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh Darshan Parishad held from 11-12 Feb 2008.

- A National Seminar on **Contemporary Crisis and Value-education** was held from February 16-18, 2008 at Department of Philosophy, University of Allahabad, Allahabad under the directorship of Professor Narendra Singh. In his keynote address Professor Sabhajeet Mishra brilliantly analysed the causes of contemporary crises with reference to Structuralism, Post Modernity and Existentialism. He analysed the causes and consequences of materialism, consumerism and globalization.



Session of the Seminar on Contemporary Crisis and Value-education at Allahabad

In his presidential address Professor D.N. Dwivedi demonstrated the presence of value crises in every year starting from 6th century till

present in one or other form. Contemporary World is passing through many changes and due to these changes we are witnessing many contemporary crises like consumerism, pollution, corruption, abortion etc. It is to understand the proper nature of those crises before finding parallel philosophical solutions.

- A National Seminar on **Moral Dilemmas in the Era of Globalization** was organized by Centre for Philosophy, School of Social Sciences, JNU from 27-29, February 2008. The Seminar was held from an interdisciplinary approach. Professor B.B. Bhattacharya, Vice-Chancellor of JNU said that the benefits of Globalization are uneven and the process of Globalization is irreversible. It is the idea of 21st Century and since it is irreversible, the best way will be to make it more human. Professor Yashpal, Chancellor, JNU and former Chairman of UGC said that globalization should be inclusive; each and every village should be connected. True globalization is based on global consciousness and explosion of creativities. If this kind of new world is possible, then morality is possible.
- A National Seminar on **“Basic Values of Indian Culture and Contemporary”** was organized on 28-29th February and 1st March 2008 at Gorakhpur under the directorship of Professor M.M. Trivedi, Member of the Council. The objective of the seminar was to analyze the Value system in the contemporary society. Professor Trivedi in his introductory speech explained the concept and stated that there is not only the attainment of Value in the conceptual plane but it has also tremendous significance in the sphere of practical ethics and morality.
- A National Seminar on **Ramchandra Gandhi: Faith and Inquiry** was held from 15-17 March 2008 at Vishvabharati, Santiniketan. There were 12 academic sessions devoted to different issues relating to the theme of the Seminar. The seminar was attended by 25 participants from all over India and 30 from within the state and Santiniketan.



A view of the Inaugural Session at Shantiniketan



Session of the Seminar on Ramachandra Gandhi on progress

- A National Seminar on **Basic Values Embodied in Indian Culture and their Relevance in National Reconstruction with special reference to the Gita, Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi** was held at Tripura University, under the Directorship of Professor S.K. Sarkar during March 18-19, 2008.
- A National Conference on **“Ethics: Theory and Application”** was organized from 18-20 March 2008 at IIT Bombay. The Inaugural lecture on “Shifting Paradigms in Ethics” by Professor S.A. Shaida was very interesting and thought provoking. Students, Research Scholars and teachers of Philosophy participated in the seminar by presenting good papers. There were in all 26 presentations which generated very interesting discussions on the whole.

## Workshops

- The Eight-Day National Workshop on **Need of Teaching Philosophy in Schools, Colleges and Universities**, was organized by Department of Philosophy, Patna University, Patna from 4-11 December 2007 under the Directorship of Dr. (Mrs.) Ratna Chaudhary. The Workshop had two sessions each for three hours. Each session had the lecture of resource person followed by group discussion and the last hour was for interaction with the resource persons and comments of different groups on the paper. Everyday there was lively discussion on the papers or lectures of resource persons.
- A Ten-Day Workshop on **Advaita in the Classics** was organized by Dr. K.H. Subramanian, at Chinmaya International Foundation, Adi Sankara Nilayam, Veliyanad, Kerala, from 19-28 December 2007. Fortyfive participants from all over India attended on 28th December 2007 during the valedictory function. Professor R. Balasubramanian inaugurated the Seminar. Professor Godabarisha Mishra gave the valedictory address at the function which was chaired by Swami Advayananda, Acharya, Chinmaya International Foundation. The tradition of textual exegesis is a unique feature of all Indian schools. Among this Advaita occupies the prominent place since it has richness of texts written over a period of centuries. Textual tradition in Advaita comprises commentaries on Prasthanatraya of Vedanta. Human reasoning and scriptural authority have always been given their due place in Advaita and in the present day context it has the opportunity to interact with all other philosophical thoughts of the world. The workshop was conducted



Inaugural Session of the Workshop

aiming at acquainting the students with the fundamentals of Advaita Vedanta and was intended to outline the historical development of Advaita from the period of Upanishads down to the modern times. Since Adi Sankara's contribution forms the most important element in the development of the system, stress was laid on a thorough study of original works.



A view of the Inaugural function of the workshop on Advaita in the classics at Kochi

- The Council organized a major workshop on Indian Models of Philosophical Enquiry under the directorship of Professor V.N. Jha, Council Member at the Academic Centre, Lucknow during 17-31 January 2008. The workshop



Professor Rajendra Prasad, Prof. R.R. Verma and Member Secretary Prof. G. Mishra at the Inaugural Function

aimed at creating an opportunity to acquaint the participants with this Model of Philosophical Enquiry and with the Concepts of Knower, Knowable, process of knowing and knowledge of almost all the orthodox and heterodox systems of Indian Philosophy. Eminent senior scholars of philosophy, like Professor Rajendra Prasad, Professor Srinivasa Rao, Professor Ashok Vohra, Professor Pradeep Gokhale delivered lectures on different schools of Indian Thought. There was a good participation of teachers of philosophy and scholars from different parts of the country.

## International Seminars

- An International Seminar on the Concept of Ultimate Reality was organized by Pune University under the leadership of Professor S.S. Deshpande during 6-7 June 2007.
- An International Conference on "Science(s) and Method(s)" was organized under the leadership of Dr. Bijoy Mukherjee, Department of Philosophy from 7-10th January 2008 at Visva Bharati University, Shantiniketan.
- An International Conference on "Incommensurability Thesis" was organized by the Department of Philosophy, School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad from 18-20 January 2008 at Hyderabad under the directorship of Professor S.G. Kulkarni. There were 12 significant papers which covered all the major issues raised by the Incommensurability

Thesis which is the focal point of contemporary debates and discussions in Philosophy of Science. The issues of realism, rationalism, concept formation, meaning, reference and truth were the chief concerns of papers and discussions. The papers invariably provided the historical and thematic backdrop of the concerns. The participants included senior and upcoming scholars. The Seminar had an active participation of scholars outside the faculty of philosophy. The participation of students was a special feature of this Seminar.

### International Philosophy Day

Every year the Council observes the International Philosophy Day in the third week of November to commemorate the birthday of Socrates as declared by UNESCO.

This year the International Philosophy Day was organized by ICPR on November 19, 2007 at the India International Centre, New Delhi and Professor Ramakrishna Rao presided over the meeting. Professor Namvar Singh, Professor S.K. Chatterjee and others participated and spoke on different philosophical themes. Professor G. Mishra, MS welcomed the gathering.

Around 22 Universities/Institutions were given grants to organize seminars, debates, Essay Competitions, Panel Discussions, Symposia dialogues and colloquia on the occasion of international Philosophy Day.

It had a good impact during the past few years although the Council is contemplating on evolving a scheme for its effective organization.

## Refresher Courses

The Council in its ongoing scheme of training the teachers of philosophy in the country through Refresher Courses, conducted two such courses during this period.

- A Refresher course on **A Critical & Comparative study of Indian Philosophical Systems** was held from 2-26 February 2008 under the directorship of Professor Devendra Nath Tiwari. Twenty seven participants from different regions partook sincerely and diligently in the Refresher Course. Classes for participants were arranged on all the days from February 02-26, 2008 except two Sundays, that is, 4th & 10th February 2008. All the participants attended the lectures regularly and punctually. Separate arrangement was made on two of the Sundays on which participants presented their individual papers related to the subject of Refresher Course. Participant's seminars were chaired by Professor M.K. Jha, Professor P.K. Majumdar, Principal, Sanskrit College, Kolkata respectively. Participants were provided with Course material on the related topics in the form of photocopy of the relevant scholarly papers published in books or in reputed journals and some texts published from Sanskrit Sodha Sansthan, Kabraghat, Darbhanga.
- The second Refresher Course on **“Critical Thinking and Applied Philosophy”** was organized by the Department of Philosophy, Utkal University under the directorship of Professor S.C. Panigrahi from 20th Nov to 17th December 2007. The Director of the Refresher Course, Professor Panigrahi emphasized the significance of philosophy of mind and



### Refresher course at L.N. Mithila Univ. Darbhanga

consciousness as an emerging field of research in India and in the West and also said that the teachers and researchers in the universities and colleges must be made aware of the recent developments in this area. Thus, the course had a good output. The course content encompassed a wide spectrum in the domain of critical thinking and applied philosophy. The eminent resource persons delivered lectures on Business Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Medical Ethics, Media Ethics, Animal Rights, Rights of Women and Children and Critical Thinking of Kant and Wittgenstein. Besides the above seminal philosophical issues on the current philosophical themes were discussed in depth and extension. On the eve of the completion of the course the participants were evaluated as per the UGC rules on the basis of the objective test, test on application of computer and presentation of paper conducted within the period of the course. The participants were awarded grades on the basis of their performances. What is significant about this refresher course is the degree of interest and involvement on the part of the participants as well resource persons which made it academically fruitful and rewarding.

## International Collaboration

ICPR has an ongoing programme of International Collaboration between India and overseas nations to facilitate exchange of views among scholars in the field of philosophy and other related disciplines. ICPR participates in various conferences abroad. The Council sent a delegation to participate in The International Congress of Vedanta held at Miami, USA during September 2007. Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Professor Srinivasa Rao and Professor G. Mishra were in the delegation. They presented the following papers.

1. Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao  
Yoga-Advaita Psychology: An Inclusive Psychology for the Future
2. Professor G. Mishra :  
Consciousness and Its States: Exploring Dharmaraja's Concept of *Vrtti* and Its Implications
3. Professor Srinivasa Rao:  
The "Ontological Gap" and the *Sadasadvilaksana* of Advaita Metaphysics: Are They Logically Sound?

## National Annual Lectures

With a view to acquainting teachers and students with the recent thoughts of leading philosophers as well as providing opportunities for interaction with them, the Council organizes every year National Lectures by leading eminent scholars, two Indian and two overseas scholars in different parts of the country. The Council had nominated Professor P.D. Premasiri from Sri Lanka and Professor William Waldron from USA to deliver lectures in India during the year 2007-08.

- Professor P.D. Premasiri has delivered three lectures in different Universities like Banaras Hindu University, Delhi University, and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The topics are:
  1. *The Critique of Philosophy in the Teaching of the Buddha and its Implications on the Uniqueness of the Buddha's Contribution to World Philosophy.*
  2. *A Buddhist Perspective on the Question "Is Ethical Knowledge Possible?"*
  3. *Problems Concerning the Application of a Non-Cognitivist Analysis of Religious Language to the Teachings of Buddhism.*
- Professor William Waldron has delivered three lectures in Madras University, Chennai; Nagarjuna University, Guntur; Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; and Delhi University, Delhi on the following topics:

1. *A Buddhist theory of Unconscious Mind (Ālaya-vijñāna)*
2. *Indian Thought and Social Science on the Travails of Self-identity*
3. *Selves and Selfless Discourse.*



Professor W. Waldron National Visiting Professor (Overseas) delivering lectures at Madras University, Chennai



Prof. W. Waldron delivering lectures at BHU, Varanasi

## Periodical Lectures

The Council organizes Periodical Lectures for the promotion of philosophy among young students of different cities in India on a low cost budget. Senior scholars of the local area are requested to lecture to the young scholars, researchers and teachers so as to enable them to be benefitted by their erudition.

The Council organized Periodical lectures in the following places yielding good results.

1. Professor N.K. Ambastha of Vinoba Bhave University arranged the lecture series from 21-23 March 2007 by Dr. S.N. Roy who delivered a lecture on “Philosophy Today”.

Dr. G. M. Prasad delivered a lecture on “Philosophy Today”.

Professor N.K. Sinha lectured on “Satyagraha” on March 23, 2007.

Professor R.S. Ambastha delivered an extempore lecture on “Phenomenology”.

2. Professor Gopalakrishna Dash of Utkal University delivered a lecture on 24 January 2008 on “Yogic Vision and Samyak Darshan” at Sanskrit Department, Ranchi Vishva-vidyalaya. Ranchi.
3. Department of Philosophy, Lucknow University organized two lectures by Professor Ashok Vohra on “Meaning of Life” on 31st January 2008 and the other lecture by Professor S.K. Seth on “Science and Truth” on 4th March 2008.



Professor Ashok Vohra delivering the Periodical Lectures at Lucknow University

4. Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Kanpur had arranged a lecture by Professor Srinivasa Rao on “Practical Rationality” on 1st February 2008.
5. Professor Raghunath Giri delivered his lecture on “Bharatiya Tarka Shastra” on 16 February 2008, at Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi.
6. Professor A.K. Chatterjee delivered lectures on 2nd February 2008 and 16th February 2008 at M.G. Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi on “Pramana Vyavastha”.



Professor A.K. Chatterjee delivering lecture at M.G. Kashi Vidyapith

7. Dr. H.P. Narayan delivered a lecture on 9th February 2008 on “Vedanta and Science” at Sanskrit Department, Ranchi Vishvavidyalaya. Ranchi.
8. Professor Chandrasekhar Rath delivered a talk on the “The hall-mark of Indian culture and its relevance to the Present Society” and Professor Bijayananda Kar, Retd. Professor of Philosophy, Utkal University, Senior fellow ICPR also delivered a talk on “Knowledge, self and liberation in Indian philosophy” at Ravenshaw University, Cuttack on 13th and 14th February 2008.
9. Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Kanpur had organized a lecture by Professor Y.N. Mohapatra on “Scientific Rationality” on March 14, 2008 on the

General Theme “Practical and Theoretical Rationality”.

10. Three different lectures were organized by the Department of Philosophy, Manipur University, Imphal by the Professor Soyam Lokendrajit. The topics of the lectures and the

scholars who delivered them are “History of Physical Thought: A Philosophical Perspective” by Professor J. Singh; “The Moral Symmetry of Fractiles” by Professor Raj Mohan Singh; “Rasa in Indian Aesthetics” by Professor Shyam Kishore Singh.

## Translation Project

The Research Project Committee of ICPR has decided to sanction a Project to translate classical texts of Indian languages into English. Professor V.N. Jha would be the coordinator of the Project. The Project would be monitored from Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati. The following texts have been chosen for the Translation Project for the current academic year:

1. *Nyaya-siddhantamuktavali* of Visvanatha by Professor V.N. Jha

2. *Advaitasiddhi* of Madhusudhana Saraswati by Professor N. Veezhinathan
3. *Advaita-ratna-raksana* of Madhusudana Saraswati by Professor V. Swaminathan
4. *Nyayaratnadipavali* of Anandanubhava by Dr. Kanshiram
5. *Adhyatma-samkirtanalu* of Tallapaka Annamacharya by C. Ramaiah
6. *Bharatiya Manovidya* of Dharendra Nath Shastri by P.K. Mukhopadhyaya

The ICPR has provided grants for the following other Research Projects:

Project	Name of the Scholar	Period
Between Femininity and Feminism: Philosophical Reflections	Dr. Kanchana Mahadevan	2 years
Development at Navya Nyaya: Udayana to Gangesa	Professor Sachchidananda Mishra	1 year
Phenomenology of Violence	Professor Gangadhara Rao	3 years
Source Book of Indian Psychology	Professor Sangeeta Menon	2 years

## Publications

The Council has a publication programme under which it brings out quality work of renowned scholars of philosophy and interdisciplinary studies. The publications of the Council represent a varied range such as books on Classical Indian Philosophy, Contemporary Indian Philosophy, works on Contemporary Indian Philosophers, ICPR documentation Series, books of Readings and Reference Publications. The Council has so far brought out 110 titles.

The Council decided to offer 50% discount on select publications to make it reach students as well as interested scholars as part of its Silver Jubilee

Celebrations. Book Exhibitions were organized at different places and the response was good.

### Recent Titles brought out by the Council

- *Author and Subject Index: JICPR Vol. I-XX*- Professor R.S. Bhatnagar
- *Intercivilizational Dialogue on Peace: Martin Buber and Basanta Kumar Mallik*- Mrs. Madhuri Sondhi
- *Philosophy Culture and Value* ed. Professor R.C. Pradhan
- *The Central Problems of Bhartrhari's Philosophy*- Professor D.N. Tiwari

## Journal of Indian Council of Philosophical Research (JICPR)

*Journal of Indian Council of Philosophical Research* (JICPR) is a journal published quarterly by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR). It is devoted to the publication of original papers of high standard in any branch of philosophy. One of the objectives of the ICPR is to encourage interdisciplinary research which has direct philosophical relevance.

The Council during this period has brought out the three issues of the Journal i.e. JICPR Volume XXIII-1, 2, 3. The content of the forthcoming issue of JICPR Vol.XXIII-4 is given below:

Articles:

Aminul Haque

*Privacy, Private Language and Rules of Syntax and Logic*

Sanjay Kumar Shukla

*Interpreting Husserl's Phenomenology as a Second Copernican Revolution*

Jaison A. Manjaly

*What is wrong with 'Dualistic Metaphysical Framework'?*

Lekshmi R.

*Ethics of Science in its Epistemic and Practical Goals*

Katatkara Vasudeva Rao

*Religion and Atheism can Coexist with Secularism*

M. Maroof Shah

*Iqbal's Experientialist Argument for the Existence of God: A Sufistic-Metaphysical Appraisal*

Sharda Narayanan

*Nature of Sound as per Sastra*

Daya Krishna

*The Cosmic, the Biological, the Cultural Conditionings and the Seeking for 'Freedom'*

### Discussion and Comments

Ashok R. Kelkar: *Nature Language and Computer Language*

S.K. Ookerjee: *Ethno-Science versus Logic-Centered Science*

Santosh Kumar Pal: *Sustainability and Deep Ecosophy*

Sanil V: *The Impersonal Image*

Liza Das: *Infidel Heteroglossia: A Bhaktinian Comment*

## Library

The Academic Centre of the ICPR located at PCF Building, Lucknow, houses an up to date specialized library in philosophy, with all facilities available for scholars from the country to visit and make use of its facilities. The library has at present 28,257 books, and receives 127 philosophical journals. This library which is Nations' Philosophical Archives has got different manuscripts and related artifacts of philosophers preserved for posterity. The facilities for borrowing and reading the books, reprographic services are available for all. Besides this, the scholars can get the acquisition lists of books and journals on request against nominal payment. As the Academic Centre is housed in a rented building, the ICPR is now making plans to provide at its own expense reading rooms, Conference Halls, office and guesthouse for visiting scholars. It is certainly hoped that the Academic Centre would serve not only as a depository of knowledge but also as a crucible for generating new knowledge.

## Vigilance Awareness Week 2007

In compliance with the instructions given by the Ministry and the Central Vigilance Commission, the Vigilance Awareness Week of the Council commenced on 12.11.2007 and went on up to 16.11.2007. On 14.11.2007 there was a pledge taking ceremony, where all the ICPR staff members and officers took an oath which was administered by Director (P&R/A&F), Vigilance Officer of the Council. Council had also invited Shri Subhash Khuntia, IAS, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Human Resource Development who delivered a very inspiring and thought provoking lecture on 14.11.2007.

## Obituary



The Indian Council of Philosophical Research expresses its sorrow over the sudden and sad demise of Professor Daya Krishna, formerly Professor and Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, and Editor of the *Journal of Indian Council of Philosophical Research* (JICPR) on 5th October 2007. Professor Daya Krishna was one of the most widely acknowledged doyens among the living philosophers in India. The Council as well as the entire philosophical community misses him greatly and it is indeed a permanent vacuum.

Professor Daya Krishna throughout had in him a kind of Socratic streak. His inquiring spirit and attitude was infectious and the way he questioned all established opinions specially inspired successive generations of young students and researchers throughout the length and breadth of our country. Young men and women would always collect around him like bees would collect around honey-bearing flowers. He always remained the oldest among the young, and the youngest among the old. What was amazing about him was that his critical powers seemed to be at their peak whatever be his age or state of health.

He brought a new vitality into the discussion of various issues in the vast field of Indian philosophy and no area was ignored by him. He could always be seen either discussing what interested him or

listening to and participating in a discussion of what interested the person with whom he was conversing. What was most outstanding in all this was his astonishing capacity to take and withstand what appeared to be even the worst and the most bitter of criticisms philosophical, and sometimes even very personal. His eagerness to learn marked him off very distinctly from all others of his generation because unlike most of them he wore his curiosity to learn right on his sleeve. He always remained a wonderful person to talk to because he never put on airs, which he could have been easily tempted to do on account of his great scholarship, seniority, fame and age.

The ICPR organized a condolence meeting at India International Centre on 19 November 2007. The meeting was attended by many renowned scholars of the country like Professor Yash Pal, Professor T.N. Madan, Mr. Om Thanvi, Professor Mrinal Miri, Professor Shail Mayaram. At the meetings speakers recalled the invaluable services rendered by Dr. Daya Krishna to philosophy in India and also as Editor of the *Journal of Indian Council of Philosophical Research*. The Journal entered a new stage and a new avatar during his editorship and he spared no efforts to make it a journal of high quality despite several obstacles in his way.

## ICPR Website

The Council has switched over from NIC to its own independent site. The site now is [www.icpr.in](http://www.icpr.in). The website contains detailed information on all the academic activities, schemes of the Council, ongoing projects, publications,

Journal and RTI cases. The Website has application forms for fellowships, Seminar/Workshops/Refresher Courses, Study-cum-Contingency grant, projects and awards. Those interested to know more about the Council may visit our website.

## ICPR Silver Jubilee Function



Felicitating Founder Chairman  
Professor D.P. Chattopadhyaya



Felicitating Professor R. Balasubramanian



Felicitating Professor Mrinal Miri



Felicitating Dr. Kireet Joshi

## Recent Publications

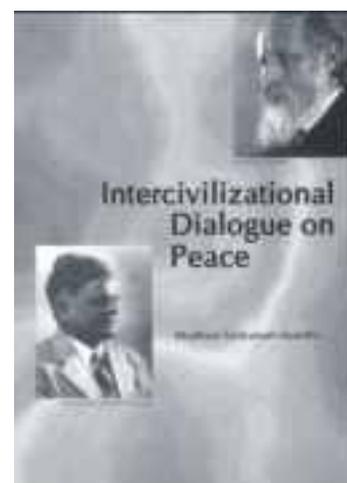
### INTERCIVILIZATIONAL DIALOGUE ON PEACE

Author: Madhuri Santanam Sondhi

ISBN 978-81-89963-03-3

Rs. 435.00

Philosophers Martin Buber and Basanta Kumar Mallik lived and worked in the same decades of the twentieth century, the former in Germany and Israel, the latter in India and Britain. Their working lives extended from the European fin-de-siecle, through both world wars, to independence for their respective countries. Although they employed different philosophic perspectives, existentialist and metaphysical, their common thrust was towards a viable and practicable ethical position for modulating interpersonal and inter-societal relations. Since this entailed for them both a critical re-interpretation of their traditions in greater or



lesser degree, this study has elements of comparative civilizational analysis, and since they anticipated the post-modern problematic of inter-human subjectivity, it also deals with cultural pluralism.

**AUTHOR AND SUBJECT INDEX OF THE  
JOURNAL OF THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF  
PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH  
VOLUME I-XX**

Compiled by:  
R.S. Bhatnagar

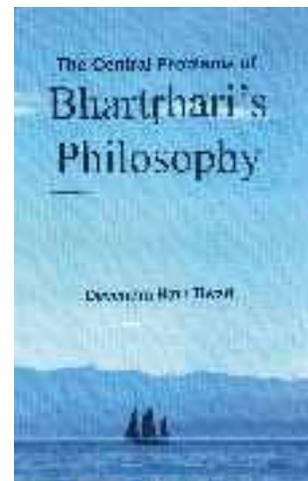
The book contains an Cumulative Index of Articles, Book Reviews and Discussions and Comments published in the JICPR Volumes I-XX. It constitutes two parts viz. author access and subject access for early reference. It is hoped that this volume will come handy for the students and researchers to locate the topics of their interest and serve as an important tool of research in philosophy.



**THE CENTRAL PROBLEMS OF  
BHARTRHARI'S PHILOSOPHY**

Author: Devendra Nath Tiwari  
ISBN 978-81-89963-02-6  
Rs. 530.00

'The Central Problem of Bhartrhari's Philosophy' is a critical approach to Bhartrhari's philosophy of language. For the first time, his philosophy of word and sentence is presented authentically as a system of philosophy of language and analysis. It discusses the metaphysical, the phonetic and the cognitive understanding of language and analyses indepth the word theorists' arguments, the counter arguments and their reply from the Bhartrhari's side. It brings out an authentic picture of his holistic philosophy based on the active theory of knowledge for which

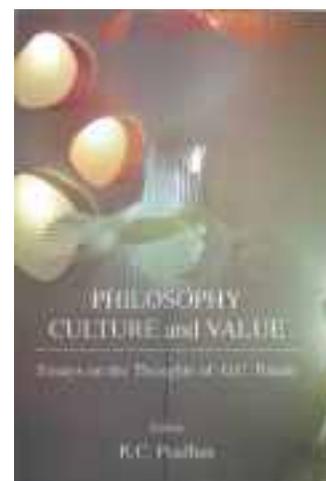


reading, writing, speaking, understanding, analysis and translation are cognitive activities.

**PHILOSOPHY CULTURE AND VALUE**

Essays on the Thoughts of G.C. Pande  
Editor: R.C. Pradhan  
ISBN: 978-81-89963-00-2  
Rs. 280.00

The book deals with various aspects of Professor G.C. Pande's Philosophy. Professor Pande is a versatile thinker and a great historian of our times. His thoughts and works range over a vast field which includes history, culture, society, art, aesthetics and poetry apart from philosophy. In philosophy he has deep interest in Buddhism and Vedanta to which he has made original contributions in terms of both interpretation and understanding. He has developed his own philosophy of value and culture which is the main



focus of this volume. The eminent contributors to the volume have expounded Professor Pande's philosophy with great sincerety and devotion.

taught for over quarter of a century in the same university. In recognition of his teaching talent and charismatic intellect he was invited as fellow, visiting lecturer and professor by several Indian as well as foreign universities and institutes of higher learning. Humayun Kabir described him in 1963 as one "among the outstanding philosophers of the younger generation". Recognizing the rising genius, Suniti Kumar Chatterjee said in 1970 that on Professor Murty "the mantle of Dr. Radhakrishnan has fallen worthily". The Metropolitan of Delhi and the North, Paulos Mar Gregorios described Professor Murty "as the leading philosopher of my country". Acharya Tulsi, the famous Jaina Muni wrote "The vision and the capacity to realize it, and single minded devotion to duty as noticed in Professor Murty is found in rare persons only. In the modern age such honesty, authenticity and integrity of purpose as found in him are not commonly found."

In recognition of his teaching and research six Indian universities, including the Banaras Hindu University have conferred on him the Honorary D. Lit. The Martin Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg in Germany, Sofia University of Bulgaria, Russian Academy of Sciences, and People's University of China conferred on Professor Murty their Honorary Doctorates of Philosophy.

Besides being an active teacher and researcher in philosophy, Professor Murty has distinguished himself as a policy maker in higher education and as an efficient and honest administrator. He was the Vice Chancellor of Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati (1975-78), Vice Chairman of UGC (1986-89) and the Chairman of Indian Philosophical Congress (1980-94). At the international level he served as Vice President of International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP).

While he was born and brought up and continues to live as a Hindu, Professor Murty respects secularism at its best in his writings as well as in real life. His philosophical works, besides presenting an exposition of the texts of the Hindus, make an extensive reference to the philosophical writings on Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism and other religious sects. Among his favourite students were several Christians and non-Hindus. Neither religion nor caste equations ever entered into his decision making or judgemental considerations.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to Philosophy, Professor Murty was conferred in the year 1984 the Dr. B.C. Roy National Award – one of the most prestigious awards in the country. For his overall excellence in philosophy and higher education he was honoured with Padma Bhushan in 1984 and Padma Vibhushan in 2001.

In the true tradition of the Indian *rishis*, after his retirement from active service, he has been living in his ancestral house in Sangam Jagarlamudi, a small village in Andhra Pradesh. For quite some time now, he has been pursuing his philosophical interests from the quietness of that village, far from the limelight of the cities. He has not accepted any office, honorary or otherwise, after his retirement; and he spends his time in quiet contemplation like a *Jnana Yogin* and a *Sthita Prajna*.

In honoring Professor Murty with this Life time Achievement Award on the occasion of the celebrations of the Silver Jubilee of its foundation, the Indian Council of Philosophical Research is honoring itself. He is a highly respected and admired icon who made a significant contribution to ICPR's policies in its formative years, added new dimensions to philosophical excellence in the country and gave fresh interdisciplinary and intercultural perspectives to global philosophy.





## Honoring Professor K. Satchidananda Murty

### ICPR SILVER JUBILEE AWARD

**Professor K. Satchidananda Murty** (born 25 September 1924) is an astute thinker and a consummate philosopher ingeniously interdisciplinary in approach and indigenously intercultural in orientation. Standing tall among his colleagues and contemporaries, Professor Murty is conspicuous as a distinctive and creative blend of tradition and modernity, classical Indian thought and current wisdom. He is a deeply religious person with exemplary sensitivities of a secular scholar. An outstanding authority in classical Indian philosophy with amazing proficiency and scholarship liked by his students and colleagues worldwide.

A prolific writer, Professor Murty authored more than forty books in English, Telugu and Hindi. His 500-page commentary in Telugu on the *Bhagavadgita* was published in 1941 when he was just sixteen, a work he began when he was only thirteen years old. An encyclopedic scholar, Professor Murty's admirably expository and thoroughly critical writings range over almost all branches of Eastern

and Western philosophy. The many splendours of his philosophical brilliance shine in his books on ethics, culture, education, peace studies, religion, social and political thought, foreign policy and of course classical Indian Philosophy – particularly Vedanta. These books are replete with original ideas, critical comments, and insightful comparisons. They contain iconoclastic, lucid, well documented, instructive and penetrative analysis of the related issues and problems from an interdisciplinary perspective. In each of his books he synthesizes the best elements of contemporary thought with the classical wisdom of Indian culture, tradition and values.

His books *Revelation and Reason in Advaita Vedanta*, *Advaitic Notion and Vedic Hermeneutics* are acclaimed all over the globe as classics and 'must read' for all the students of Indian Philosophy.

Professor Murty learnt Sanskrit from traditional pundits. After obtaining his post-graduate and doctorate degrees from Andhra University he

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