

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BHĀRĀTIYA THOUGHT FOR MODERN TIMES

ORGANISED BY

Center for Sri Sathya Sai Studies
SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING

Prasanthi Nilayam, Puttaparthi, AP - 515134

Date: 6th to 8th October, 2025

Venue: Sai Hira Global Convention Center

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"In those ancient times when modern empirical science had not yet blazed a new trail, Vedic pundits had gained an insight into nature. They had developed the tremendous faculties of the mind and even acquired control over natural phenomena. With the aid of their higher spiritual powers, they were able to harness the material forces of nature. They exemplified the triumph of mind over matter. India has inherited this spiritual tradition of the great rsis and holy men of antiquity."

Sri Sathya Sai Baba Revered Founder Chancellor, SSSIHL May, 1979, Summer Course in Indian Culture and Spirituality



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INTRODUCTION

In an era marked by rapid technological advancement, environmental degradation, and psychosocial complexity, there is an urgent need to revisit and re-contextualize indigenous knowledge systems. Bharatiya Thought for Modern Times is an intellectual initiative that seeks to explore how timeless Indic wisdom-rooted in disciplines such as Āyurveda, Yoga, Dharma Sastra, and classical sciences-can offer holistic solutions to contemporary challenges. This interdisciplinary conference brings together scholars, practitioners, and visionaries to re-anchor modern paradigms in Bhāratīya knowledge systems, with an aim to address modern challenges.

It will cover holistic wellness through Āyurveda, Yoga, and RasaŚāstra; Dharmic ethics in governance, Al, and policymaking; ecological wisdom from Vedic and tribal traditions; and the enduring relevance of Indian aesthetics in art, literature, and design. The conference will also highlight ancient scientific insights in astronomy, mathematics, physics, and chemistry as foundational to modern STEM thought. Collectively, these explorations will reframe Bhāratīya traditions as vital, dynamic, and living frameworks capable of offering ethical, sustainable, and integrative approaches to contemporary life by fostering a meaningful dialogue between tradition and modernity.





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CONFERENCE THEMES

The Centre for Sri Sathya Sai Studies warmly invites participation from scholars and practitioners of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) across academia, industry, and education-including faculty, researchers, educators, and students who are inspired to explore the following topics:

1) Pathways to Holistic Wellness: The Bhāratīya Way

Rooted in ancient wisdom, Ayurveda and Yoga offer integrated approaches to health that align the body, mind, and spirit. This theme explores their foundational principles and contemporary relevance in promoting preventive healthcare, mental well-being, and balanced living, reaffirming Bharatiya approaches to wellness as timeless and universally applicable.

2) Dharmic Frameworks for Contemporary Society

Dharma, as a guiding principle of individual and collective life, offers a nuanced framework for justice, sustainability, and social order. This theme reflects on how Dharmic values, rooted in duty, harmony, and interdependence, can inform responses to contemporary societal challenges, fostering ethical leadership and compassionate, inclusive governance.

3) Ecological Wisdom in Vedic and Indigenous Traditions

Ancient Indian texts and indigenous practices reflect a deep reverence for nature and the interconnectedness of all life. This theme explores traditional worldviews that emphasize living in balance with the environment, highlighting practices and philosophies that promote sustainability, respect for natural resources, and harmony between humans and nature.





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4) Indian Aesthetics and Design

Indian aesthetic traditions embrace a holistic vision of beauty, harmony, and spiritual expression across diverse forms—visual arts, music, dance, literature, and architecture. This theme explores how principles like rasa (emotive experience), proportion, symbolism, and sacred geometry shape artistic and architectural expressions. It also reflects on how these timeless design philosophies can inspire meaningful and sustainable creative practices in the modern world.

5) Scientific Inquiry in Ancient Bhāratīya Thought

Ancient Bhāratīya scholars approached knowledge with a spirit of systematic observation, experimentation, and logical reasoning. This theme highlights scientific thinking in disciplines such as mathematics, astronomy, linguistics, chemistry (rasaśāstra), and logic. It explores how early Indian traditions combined empirical methods with philosophical insight to understand and engage with the natural world.

Interested in participating and/or presenting your research? Scan the QR code and fill out the Google Form to register!





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ABOUT US

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Deemed to beUniversity), Prasanthi Nilayam, Andhra Pradesh, India, is a visible manifestation of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's vision of education for human transformation. The Institute was recognised as a Deemed to be University by the Government of India in 1981.

The Institute hosts students from across the country at its four campuses located in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, in India, and provides quality education to students, free of cost, for all programmes of study.

For Women:

Anantapur Campus at Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh

For Men:

Prasanthi Nilayam Campus at Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh Brindavan Campus at Kadugudi, Bengaluru, Karnataka Nandigiri Campus at Nandigiri, Karnataka

The academic programmes offered include undergraduate, postgraduate, professional, and research. The institute has an open admissions policy for all, irrespective of income, religion, or social status.

Centre for Sri Sathya Sai Studies

The Centre for Sri Sathya Sai Studies established to facilitate scholarly research into the teachings of Sai, to preserve and publish the philosophical underpinnings of the massive social projects established by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and to assess their impact. The Centre for Sri Sathya Sai Studies is uniquely positioned to initiate a global dialogue on the relevance of Bhāratiya (Indian) thought in the context of contemporary challenges and opportunities. Rooted in the timeless teachings of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba — which harmoniously integrate spiritual wisdom with practical living the Centre serves as a bridge between ancient Indian philosophy and modern societal needs.

In organizing this international conference, the Centre for Sri Sathya Sai Studies advances its twofold mission: to preserve and promote the profound wellspring of Bhāratiya wisdom, and to engage meaningfully with the demands of our time. It stands as both a tribute to India's civilizational heritage and a transformative offering to the world.