



Two-day Seminar on 'Bhakti Schools of Vedānta'

The following Six Schools will be discussed:

Viśiṣṭādvaita (Rāmānuja), Dvaita (Madhva), Dvaitādvaita (Nimbārka), Śuddhādvaita (Vallabha), Acintyābheda (Sri Chaitanya), and Śāktādvaita (Sri Hārītāyana)

Organized by Department of Sanskrit and Philosophy

Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI)
(Deemed to be University as declared by the Govt. of India under UGC Act)

Venue: Abhedananda Convention Centre, Ramakrishna Math, Belur Math, West Bengal

Dates: 18 and 19 April 2025 (Friday and Saturday)

Day 1 : 18 April 2025 (Friday)

Registration: 8:00 am to 9:15 am

Inaugural Session (9.30 am to 11.15 am)

- Invocation: Students of the Sanskrit Department
- Address of Welcome: **Swami Atmapriyananda** (15 minutes), Pro-Chancellor & Secretary, RKMVERI
- Introducing the theme of the seminar: **Dr Rakesh Das** (15 minutes), Head, Department of Sanskrit and Philosophy

Benedictory Address (15 minutes)

- Most Revered **Swami Gautamananda Ji Maharaj**, President, Ramakrishna Math and Mission

Keynote Address (40 minutes)

- Revered **Swami Bhajanananda Ji Maharaj**, Vice-President, Ramakrishna Math and Mission

Tea break: 11:15 am to 11:30 am

First Session (Viśiṣṭādvaita and Dvaitādvaita): 11.35 am to 12.55 pm

- *Dvaitādvaita (Nimbārka)*: 1. Respected **Swami Brindavan Bihari Das Ji Maharaj**, Head, Kathia Baba Ashram, Sukhchar and Varanasi, at West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh respectively (25 mins)
2. **Dr. Shantanu Ayachit** (25 minutes), Asst. Professor, Department of Sanskrit and Philosophy, RKMVERI
- *Viśiṣṭādvaita (Rāmānuja)*: **Dr. M.S.Srikanth** (30 minutes), Asst. Professor, Department of Visistadvaitadvaita Vedanta, Sri Ahobila Mutt Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Madhurantakam

Lunch break: 1.00 pm to 1.45 pm

Second Session (Dvaita and Śuddhādvaita): 1.50 pm to 3.00 pm

- *Dvaita (Madhva)*: **Prof. Veeranaranaya Pandurangi** (30 minutes), Director, Sri Purnaprajna Samshodhana Mandira, Bengaluru & Former Dean, Faculty of Darshana, Karnataka Sanskrit University
- *Śuddhādvaita (Vallabha)*: **Sm. Maitri Goswami** (30 minutes), Co-founder, Vallabhacharya Vidyapeetha and Visiting Faculty, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai

Tea Break: 3.00 pm to 3.20 pm

B.B. Dutta (Swami Vidyanaraya) Memorial Lecture: 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm

- Speaker: **Prof. Veernarayana Pandurangi** (author of a commentary ('*Viṣṇvarcana-bhāṣya*') based on Bhakti Schools).

Topic: A spiritual interpretation of the concept '*Ahalyāyai Jāraḥ*'

Day 2 : 19 April 2025 (Saturday)

Third Session (Acintyabhedābheda and Śāktādvaita): 10.00 am to 11.30 pm

- *Acintyabhedābheda* (Sri Chaitanya): **Dr. Tridib Roy Mondal** (30 minutes), Head, Department of Sanskrit, Diamond Harbour Women's University
- *Śāktādvaita* (Sri Hārītāyana): **Dr. Rakesh Das** (30 minutes), Head, Department of Sanskrit and Philosophy, RKMVERI
- Vedānta Samanvaya Siddhanta of Sri Ramakrishna (based on his own spiritual experience of Bhavamukha and the philosophy of *Vijñāna* (Harmony or Synthesis of all the various points of view in Vedānta)): **Swami Japasiddhananda**, Asst. Professor and former Head, Dept. of Sanskrit and Philosophy, RKMVERI (30 mins.)

Tea Break: 11.30 am to 11.50 am

Fourth Session: Panel discussion (11.50 am to 12.55 pm)

by the research scholars of the Sanskrit Dept. of RKMVERI on the six schools discussed so far (*Viśiṣṭādvaita*, *Dvaita*, *Dvaitādvaita*, *Śuddhādvaita*, *Acintyabhedābheda*, *Śāktādvaita*)

Panelists: **Sri Rajesh Adhikary, Sri Buddhadev Das, Sri Subhadeep Das, Sri Tirthankar Dey, Sri Gaurav Sharma, Sri Provat Mondal**. Moderator: **Dr. Rakesh Das**

Lunch: 1.00 pm to 1.45 pm

Fifth Session (Gītāvadhānam): 1.50 pm to 3.20 pm

- *Gītāvadhānam* (a unique and fascinating art of portraying and depicting the Bhagavad-Gita verses): **Prof. Anakannagari Sacchidananda Murthy** (famous Gītāvadhānī), Professor, Dept. of Education, National Sanskrit University, Tirupati.

Sixth (Question-Answer) Session: 3.20 pm to 4.20 pm

- Question-Answer Session—interaction with audience by all the Resource Persons, the experts in the six schools of Vedānta discussed in this seminar

Moderators: **Swami Japasiddhananda** (in English/Sanskrit) and **Dr. Rakesh Das** (in Bengali/Sanskrit)

Tea break: 4.20 pm to 4.40 pm

Valedictory Session (4.45 pm to 5.40 pm)

- Summary of the two-day seminar proceedings (in Bengali): **Dr. Rakesh Das** (25 mins.)
- Valedictory Address: Revered **Swami Suvirananda ji Maharaj**, General Secretary, Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math & Chancellor, RKMVERI (25 mins.)
- Vote of Thanks by **Swami Sarvottamananda**, Hon'ble Vice-chancellor RKMVERI (5 mins.)