



From Vedantic Thought to Lived Spirituality

Reinterpreting Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda in Contemporary Life

National Seminar & Edited ISBN Book Publication



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A Joint Academic Venture by

Department of Political Science, Rampurhat College &

IQAC, Rampurhat College

with

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About the Seminar

This national seminar and edited book project explores the transformation of Vedanta from a philosophical system into lived spirituality as realised by Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and reinterpreted by Swami Vivekananda for the modern world. The seminar foregrounds experiential spirituality, ethical humanism, and social responsibility in contemporary life. After the seminar an ISBN book will be published with all the selected papers.

Objectives

- To examine Vedanta as the philosophical foundation of Indian spirituality
- To analyse Sri Ramakrishna's experiential spiritual praxis
- To study Swami Vivekananda's reinterpretation of Vedanta for modern society
- To explore the relevance of spiritual humanism today

Themes

1. Vedanta: Text, Philosophy, and Practice

(From Scriptural Foundations to Lived Reality)

Sub-Themes:

- Classical Vedantic texts: **Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Brahma Sutra** – interpretative traditions
- Advaita, Vishishtadvaita, Dvaita, and Neo-Vedantic engagements
- Vedanta as *Darśana* and *Sādhana*: theory vs lived spirituality
- Oral traditions, folk commentaries, and vernacular Vedanta
- Vedanta in everyday ethics, labour, family life, and rural society
- Vedantic ideas of self (*Atman*), liberation (*Moksha*), and duty (*Dharma*)
- Comparative Vedanta: Indian metaphysics and Western philosophy
- Vedanta as a counter-narrative to materialism and extreme modernity
- Praxis-oriented Vedanta: meditation, service, renunciation, and discipline

2. Sri Ramakrishna: Experience, Pluralism, and Folk Spirituality

(Mysticism Beyond Textual Boundaries)

Sub-Themes:

- **Sri Ramakrishna** and experiential spirituality (*Anubhava*)
- Religious pluralism: realization of multiple paths—Hinduism, Islam, Christianity
- Folk religiosity, village cosmology, and goddess traditions
- Bhakti, Tantra, and Vedanta as lived synthesis
- Oral narratives, metaphors, parables, and symbolic pedagogy
- Women, devotion, and the sacred feminine in Ramakrishna's thought
- Rural Bengal's spiritual ecology and temple-centered culture
- Madness, ecstasy, and altered states of consciousness in mysticism

- Ramakrishna as a bridge between folk faith and philosophical Vedanta
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3. Swami Vivekananda: Neo-Vedanta, Education, and Nationhood

(Spiritual Humanism and Social Awakening)

Sub-Themes:

- **Swami Vivekananda** and reinterpretation of Vedanta
 - Neo-Vedanta as a response to colonial modernity
 - Education for character-building and nation-making
 - Youth, strength, discipline, and moral regeneration
 - Vedanta and social service: *Daridra Narayana Seva*
 - Nationalism, universalism, and global spiritual dialogue
 - Vivekananda and the making of modern Indian identity
 - Science, rationality, and spirituality in Vivekananda's vision
 - Vedanta as a tool for social equality and dignity of labour
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4. Spirituality, Ethics, Ecology, Gender, and Social Reform

(Vedanta in Contemporary Socio-Cultural Life)

Sub-Themes:

- Spiritual ethics and moral responsibility in public life
 - Vedantic views on ecology: harmony between human and nature
 - Sacred landscapes, rivers, forests, and environmental consciousness
 - Gender, spirituality, and women's agency in reform movements
 - Feminine divinity and rethinking patriarchy through Vedanta
 - Caste, marginality, and spiritual democracy
 - Spiritual foundations of social justice and human rights
 - Vedanta and sustainable rural development
 - Interfaith harmony, peace-building, and ethical coexistence
 - Relevance of Vedantic ethics in the age of AI, consumerism, and climate crisis
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Submission Guidelines

Abstract: 250–300 words

Full Paper: 2000–2500 words

Language: English

Referencing Style: APA / MLA / Chicago

Papers can be in English/ Hindi & Bengali

Important Dates

Abstract Submission: 30 January 2026

Selection Notification: 1 February 2026

Seminar Date: 18 February 2026

Full Paper Submission: 30 March 2026

Publication: April 2026

Registration Fees

Professors: Rs. 1500/-

Research Scholars: Rs. 1200/-

Students: Rs. 1000/-

Mode & Contact

Mode: Online

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