

4th Asian African Philosophy Congress – 2020 (AAPC)
Asian African Understanding of Truth and Non-violence
(7th – 8th March 2020)

Prof. S R Bhatt
Chairman

Dr. Rana Purushottam Kumar Singh
General Secretary

Dear Professor,

We extend you the most cordial invitation to participate in 4th Asian African Philosophy Congress to be hosted by North Eastern Hill University, Shillong India on 7th and 8th March 2020 which would be followed by Indian Philosophical Congress during 9th to 11th March 2020. You are requested to participate in both.

About the theme:

Truth (*satya*) and non-violence (*ahimsa*) are the foundation of Asian African philosophy. The word ‘non-violence’ is a translation of the Sanskrit term ‘*ahimsa*’. The positive form of *ahimsa* means ‘the largest love, the greatest charity’. The word ‘*satya*’ comes from the word ‘*sat*’ which means ‘to exist’. So the term ‘*satya*’ means that which is not only existent but also true. Truth and non-violence are the two sides of the same coin. Ahimsa is the means, truth is the end.

In Indian context truth has been identified with God. According to many philosophers God is the highest reality. So both Truth and God stands for the Highest Reality or the Ultimate Reality. Sometimes truth is described as existence, consciousness and bliss (*sat, cit and anand*).

Ahimsa or non-violence is also the central concept of philosophy. Here non-violence means ‘love’. It means love towards all living creatures. According to the Gautama Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi the concept of non-violence is extended not only to human love but also towards all sentient creatures of the world. That means one should not only love human beings alone but also every living being of the universe. In fact *ahimsa* (non-violence) is nothing but love. Love is a kind of feeling of oneness. Love is the energy that cleanses one’s inner life and uplifts oneself, and as such love comprehends noble feelings as benevolence, compassion, forgiveness, tolerance, generosity, kindness, sympathy etc. Hence it can be said that truth and non-violence are closely inter-related.

The present age of post-modern thinking and facticity of globalization along with the attempts to go beyond the conceptions of clash of civilizations and epistemic ruptures necessitate the need to revisit the classical conceptions of ‘truth’ and ‘non-violence’ in Afro Asian Philosophical traditions. The present conference facilitates the reevaluation of the classical and modern conceptions of the Asian African philosophies in the light of the problems of the contemporary world and life while contrasting them with the dominant Non-Asian ways of thinking.

Asian African Philosophy Conference is moving in the direction of finding an identity for Afro Asian philosophies by asserting them in all international forums. Since there are many national organizations and International Federations of Philosophy, and as the space between these forums is too far and wide, there is a need for an identity broader than national and narrower than the global that can help us in bridging the two. The Asian African Philosophy Congress is conceived to work towards promoting such regional and transnational identities.

Philosophies in Asia and Africa have to celebrate their creative contributions in advancing philosophical wisdom to assert their identities. Asian African Philosophy Congress would help find our own native identities as philosophers and it simultaneously helps to develop a meaningful mosaic of common Asian African identity, which in turn would lead to the emergence of a truly global forum for philosophers in which the multiple identities are seen both as distinctive and homogeneous.

The Present Session of the Asian African Philosophy Congress comprises of the following Programme:

Plenary Sessions:

The conference would comprise of four plenary sessions with the invited speakers. In addition, three Plenary sessions are meant for the registered participants.

Submission of Papers:

We welcome scholars from various parts of the world working on Asian African Philosophies to send their papers for the three Plenary sessions by mail to asianaficanphilosophycongress@gmail.com Please note that the presentation should not exceed 20 mnts, within 10-12 pages length of approximately 3000-word limit. Peer reviewed papers will be shortlisted for the presentation. Interested scholars may also register for mere participation in the joint academic program AAPC & IPC by paying the required Registration fee.

Travel Assistance:

As we have limited funds for the event we are constrained to provide travel to the invited speakers only. We advise the registered participants and other interested scholars to make use of their own resources for their travel.

Registration:

There is common registration fee for Asian African Philosophy Congress and Indian Philosophical Congress.

Foreign Participants:	\$50
Regular Participants:	₹3000/-
Senior Citizens:	₹2600/-
Students/ Accompanists:	₹1500/-

The participants need to register themselves giving full details on the given format to be uploaded on the webpage of Indian Philosophical Congress. Registration fees should be credited in the special account opened for the event. (Please see the first circular IPC)

Last Date of Registration and submission of full paper: 15th February, 2020
(Word limit 3000-4000)

-with a late fee (₹1000/-): 20th February, 2020

Organizing Institution:

North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, India

Contact details: Email: asianaficanphilosophycongress@gmail.com

For further details contact:

General Secretary for AAPC:

Dr. Rana Purushottam Singh
Deptt. of Pali & I/C H.O.D. Deptt. of Buddhist Studies
Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar
rana_purushottam@yahoo.com
Mobile: +91- 7703989092, 8877328782

Local Secretary:

Prof. Xavier Mao
Dept. of Philosophy
North Eastern Hill University (NEHU)
xamao@gmail.com
Mob: 9436709125