

Report on the Three-Day National Seminar on “Modern Interpretations of Vedanta and Interdisciplinary Approaches”

Organized by: Department of Vedanta, Government Sanskrit College, Tripunithura

Dates: 31 October, 1 & 2 November 2023

The Department of Vedanta, Government Sanskrit College, Tripunithura, organized a Three-Day National Seminar on the theme “Modern Interpretations of Vedanta and Interdisciplinary Approaches.” The seminar aimed to explore the contemporary relevance of Vedānta philosophy and its interaction with other disciplines, while also examining modern interpretations and regional perspectives.

The inaugural session began with a Welcome Address by Dr. Ranjini M, Head, Department of Vedanta. Dr. Sobha K. D., Principal, delivered the Presidential Address, highlighting the academic significance of Vedānta in shaping philosophical and cultural thought.

The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. C. G. Vijayakumar, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Maharshi Panini Sanskrit Evam Vedic Vishwavidyalaya, Ujjain, who also delivered the thematical paper on the topic “Vedanta – The Interdisciplinary Influences.” His address emphasized how Vedānta transcends disciplinary boundaries, influencing modern philosophy, psychology, and cultural studies.

The Keynote Address was delivered by Prof. K. Muthulekshmi, Pro Vice Chancellor, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady. She spoke on the dynamic reinterpretations of Vedānta in the modern era and its role in sustaining India’s intellectual heritage.

Felicitations were offered by Dr. K. C. Suseela, Vice Principal, followed by a Vote of Thanks from Dr. Shyji K. K., Seminar Co-ordinator.

The technical sessions featured distinguished resource persons who presented scholarly papers on various subthemes such as classical interpretations, regional translations, national movement and Kerala Renaissance perspectives, and interdisciplinary approaches to Vedānta. The sessions were led by:

Dr. Vijayakumari C. N., University of Kerala

Prof. R. Pratibha, Professor and Head, Department of Advaita Vedanta, Central Sanskrit University, Guruvayoor Campus, Puranattukara

Dr. V. Vasanthakumari, Professor, Department of Vedanta, S.S.U.S., Kalady

Dr. Lakshmi Sankar, Assistant Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Sree Krishna College, Guruvayur

Dr. V. V. Anil Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Vedanta, Sree Sankara College, Kalady

Dr. Bineesh Puthuppanam, Assistant Professor, NSS College, Nilamel

The seminar concluded with a Valedictory Session, in which Dr. Nityanand Bhatt, Director, Sukrithindra Oriental Research Institute, Thammanam, delivered the Valedictory Message. He appreciated the Department's efforts in fostering advanced philosophical discourse and integrating traditional wisdom with contemporary academic approaches.

The three-day event provided a vibrant academic platform for scholars and students to engage with the evolving interpretations of Vedānta and its interdisciplinary connections. It successfully inspired further research and dialogue on the continued relevance of Vedānta in the modern world.

