

Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā

EXPLORING A MODERN-DAY SCRIPTURE

Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge

Friday 17 January 2025

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	Arrival and Coffee	
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	Opening Remarks	James Hegarty (Professor of the Religions of South Asia, Cardiff University, UK)
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā: A Manual to Mokṣa	Ankur Barua (University Senior Lecturer in Hindu Studies, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, UK) Tilak Parekh (PhD Candidate, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, UK)
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Ājñā, Upāsanā, and Brahmabhāva: Ethical Subjectivity and the “Good Life” in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā	Puja-Arti Patel (PhD researcher on the Vulnerable State project, Department of Sociology, University of Warwick, UK)
11:30 AM – 11:45	Break	
11:45 PM – 12:15 PM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā and Ethical Finance	Atul Shah FCA (Visiting Lecturer, School of Policy and Global Affairs, City University of London, UK) Thomas Awad (Graduate Student, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oxford, UK)
12:15 PM – 12:45 PM	Pragmatic Pluralism in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā: Understanding the Self to Respect the Other	Kalpesh Bhatt (Assistant Professor, Classics, Philosophy, and Religion, University of Mary Washington, USA)
12:45 PM – 1:15 PM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā and Śrī Haribhaktivilāsa	Måns Broo (Senior Lecturer, Department of Comparative Religion, Åbo Akademi University, Finland)
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM	Lunch	
2:15 PM – 2:45 PM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā: Material Dimensions and Ritualised Readings	Avni Chag (Assistant Professor of Hindu Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands) Kush Depala (PhD Candidate, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Germany)

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2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	The Language of Vedānta in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā	Arun Brahmabhatt (Assistant Professor, Religion, Syracuse University, USA)
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Ghar Sabhā: A Micro-Collective Practice Prescribed in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā	Aarti Patel (Assistant Professor, Religious Studies and South Asian History, Penn State University, USA)
3:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Break	
4:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Discussions of Sāṃkhya-Yoga Metaphysics and its Ontological Dualism in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā	Karen O'Brien-Kop (Lecturer in Modern Asian Religions, King's College London, UK)
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Exploring the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā as a Universal Religious Text	James Hegarty (Professor of the Religions of South Asia, Cardiff University, UK)
5:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā: Theology in Practice	Paramtattvadas Swami (Head, BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, London, UK)
5:15 PM – 5:45 PM	Keynote Address	Bhadreshdas Swami (Head, BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, New Delhi, India)
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Dinner	