

# 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	<u>James Hegarty</u> (Professor of the Religions of South Asia, Cardiff University, UK)
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā: A Manual to Mokṣa	<u>Ankur Barua</u> (University Senior Lecturer in Hindu Studies, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, UK) <u>Tilak Parekh</u> (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	<u>Puja-Arti Patel</u> (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	<u>Atul Shah FCA</u> (Visiting Lecturer, School of Policy and Global Affairs, City University of London, UK) <u>Thomas Awad</u> (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	<u>Kalpesh Bhatt</u> (Assistant Professor, Classics, Philosophy, and Religion, University of Mary Washington, USA)
12:45 PM – 1:15 PM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā and Śrī Haribhaktivilāsa	<u>Måns Broo</u> (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	<u>Avni Chag</u> (Assistant Professor of Hindu Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands) <u>Kush Depala</u> (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	<u>Arun Brahmbhatt</u> (Assistant Professor, Religion, Syracuse University, USA)
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Ghar Sabhā: A Micro-Collective Practice Prescribed in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā	<u>Aarti Patel</u> (Assistant Professor, Religious Studies and South Asian History, Penn State University, USA)
3:45 PM – 4:00 PM	<b>Break</b>	
4:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Discussions of Sāṃkhya-Yoga Metaphysics and its Ontological Dualism in the Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā	<u>Karen O'Brien-Kop</u> (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	<u>James Hegarty</u> (Professor of the Religions of South Asia, Cardiff University, UK)
5:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Satsaṅga-Dīkṣā: Theology in Practice	<u>Paramtattvadas Swami</u> (Head, BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, London, UK)
5:15 PM – 5:45 PM	Keynote Address	<u>Bhadreshdas Swami</u> (Head, BAPS Swaminarayan Research Institute, New Delhi, India)
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	<b>Dinner</b>	