



Two Day National Seminar on

# Guru Parampara & Indian Knowledge Tradition

Revisited in the Emerging National Context

**28 & 29**  
**August 2025**  
Thursday & Friday

**Santhigiri Ashram**  
Pothencode, Thiruvananthapuram



## Context of the Seminar

For some time, there have been concerted national efforts to promote and achieve social harmony and cultural progress through the revitalization of India's cultural legacy and ancient knowledge systems. However, pride and confidence in the cultural ethos of a society are the prerequisites for a people to achieve national integration, economic progress, and cultural development. In this context, it is significant to address and resolve the fossilization of tradition, if any, which often hinders the organic and sustainable development of a society. Therefore, it is essential for the success of our ongoing multilevel national initiatives to examine the present social, cultural, and religious state of the country and identify the factors, if any, that disrupted the continuity of India's sublime Dharma-centred spiritual and cultural traditions, which once produced and sustained India's Wisdom and knowledge systems.

India's awe-inspiring Dharma-centred knowledge tradition, nurtured and nourished by the Vedic Rishis and successive Guru Parampara of India, was universalistic and all-inclusive. Although Indian Culture is a synthesis of various spiritual, philosophical, and religious streams, the uninterrupted knowledge tradition, originating with the Vedic rishis, constitutes the foundation of Indian spiritual science. The knowledge tradition, nurtured and sustained by successive Guru Parampara through diverse knowledge branches, constitutes the sum and substance of the Indian cultural legacy.

## Focus of the Seminar

The dialectical trajectory of Guru Parampara and Indian spiritual tradition gave rise to the ancient Indian knowledge systems, which stand out as marvels of the highest attainment of human consciousness. The social and cultural environment that evolved under the spiritual guidance of ancient Vedic Rishis constituted the fertile soil in which the knowledge systems developed and evolved. Therefore, in any discussion on Indian knowledge systems, the tradition that produced the knowledge systems deserves focused attention. It was the spiritual, social and cultural ecology of the given periods that gave rise to the knowledge systems. It means that the traditions and system of knowledge prevailing at any particular time are complementary and mutually supportive. Any decline and calcification of one impacts the other. For knowledge systems to be vibrant and living, there should also be a vibrant and living social and cultural ecology that sustains a tradition. It was the eclipse of a vibrant and living social and cultural environment that led to the fossilization of our tradition, resulting in a lack of further development in knowledge systems.

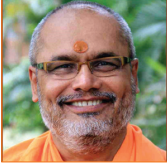
## Themes of Discussion

The deliberations will revolve around a broad spectrum of themes, including:

- The historical and philosophical perspective of Guru Parampara.
- Revisiting the spiritual and cultural ecology that sustained knowledge systems.
- The interface between Indian wisdom traditions and modern scientific civilization.
- Problems and prospects of Indian Knowledge Systems in shaping human futures.
- The Santhigiri School of Thought and its contribution in the New Age.
- Vedic wisdom as a guide to material and spiritual pursuits today.
- The revitalization of traditions in shaping society, culture, economy, and polity.

## Resource Persons

The seminar will feature some of India's most respected voices in spirituality, philosophy, and Indic knowledge. We are privileged to host a distinguished panel of spiritual leaders, scholars, and academicians contributing their insights to the seminar:



**Pujya Swami Paramatmananda Saraswati**  
Arsha Vidya Mandir, Rajkot, Gujarat



**Swami Sri Atmananda**  
Satyachetana Ashram, Thiruvannamalai



**Swami Narasimhananda**  
Ramakrishna Ashram, Kozhikode



**Prof. Shrinivasa Varakhedi**  
Vice-Chancellor, Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi



**Prof. Balram Singh**  
Institute of Advanced Sciences, Dartmouth, USA



**Dr. G.R. Kiran**  
Senior Quality Assurance Expert  
Accreditation Authority, Sultanate of Oman



**Prof. S. Panneerselvam**  
General Secretary, Indian Philosophy Congress



**Prof. Ram Nath Jha**  
School of Sanskrit & Indic Studies, JNU, New Delhi



**Prof. Balaganapathi Devarakonda**  
Professor of Philosophy, University of Delhi



**Prof. Ramanathan Srinivasan**  
Former Fellow, IAS, Shimla



**Prof. Laxmikant Padhi**  
Professor of Philosophy, West Bengal University



**Prof. K. Rajasekharan Nair**  
Principal, Ananthapuri Global Institute of Public Health



**Dr. Swami Gurunand Jnana Thapaswi**  
Head (Coordination) Centenary Celebrations, Santhigiri Ashram



**Prof. Sreekala M. Nair**  
Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady



**Prof. K. Sreelatha**  
Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady



**Prof. Gopakumaran Nair N.**  
Govt. Arts College, Thiruvananthapuram



**Dr. Janani Ramyaprabha Jnana Thapaswini**  
Santhigiri Ayurveda Medical College



**Dr. Aruna Gupta**  
Health and Wellness Specialist



**Dr. Indu Sujeesh**  
Department of Hindi, University of Kerala



**Janani Vanditha Jnana Thapaswini**  
In-Charge (Coordination) Santhigiri Gurumahima



**Dr. Rajesh Kumar**  
HelpAge India, Shimla



**Sri. Sanjay Jain**  
Prayas Vocational Institute, Jaipur



**Dr. T.S. Somanathan**  
Patron (Arts & Culture) Advisory Committee, Santhigiri Ashram



**Dr. K.R.S. Nair**  
Patron (Human Resources) Advisory Committee, Santhigiri Ashram