

Assumptions—ontological, epistemic and moral are situated in a religious language in a matrix of multidimensional orientations. To decipher the inner meanings attached to such a language often leads us to fall off from the heights of reasoned belief. Blind adherence to belief, faith, authority and tradition seem to be the offshoots of distancing oneself from the canons of logic and reason. The Indigenous or Tribal philosophies of North-east show great sense of reflection, logic and reason, and also show greater affinity with other schools of Indian philosophy in terms of their conceptions of God, Self, Karma, Dharma, Re-birth, Moral Values, Rites and Rituals.

The re-examination of religious world-views of the people of North-east is an attempt at integrating diverse philosophical perspectives from this region with other schools of Indian philosophy. Political and Social Ideas of some of the thinkers from North-east India would also be a topic of interest for this conference.

The major aim in the seminar is to bring together representatives of widely differing views, hereby keeping alive an older tradition in the philosophy of religion which, sadly, has declined. We only hope that the result of the discussions proves valuable for students, research scholars and for other participants of national seminar.

**Subtitles or allied aspects of the theme / area in which papers from contributors are invited**

- A lucid overview of contemporary philosophy of religion
- Impact of religious diversity and pluralism
- Indigenous Philosophies of North-east India.
- God, Self, Rebirth and Karma Theories.
- Different religious approaches to the concept of life after death
- Conflicts in religions and conflicts within philosophy of religion
- Nature Worship, and Ecological/Environmental Concerns.
- Interface between Religious Philosophies of the North-east and Rest of India.
- Notion of Dharma, Morality and Ethics.
- Cultural Plurality, Authenticity, and Value Systems.
- Socio-political Philosophy of Indigenous Communities.
- The Link Between Classical Indian and Tribal Ethics.
- Religion and morality
- Philosophy of religion, language and meaning
- Kant and Kierkegaard on Philosophy of religion
- Religion, gender and peace
- Post-modern paradigms in Philosophy of religion

**HOW TO REACH DISPUR COLLEGE ?**

The Department of Philosophy, Dispur college, Guwahati is one of the very accomplished centers of learning and research in Philosophy and is situated in Ganeshguri, (Dispur), Guwahati, Assam. We pride ourselves in being a department where equal emphasis is placed on quality teaching as well as on development and training of students through teaching/ learning and extensive teacher-student interaction.

Participants can reach Guwahati either by air, train or by bus.

Ola, Uber, Rapido services are available throughout the city including city buses. Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi airport, Guwahati is 30 km, and the Guwahati railway station is 5 KM away from the College campus.

**National Seminar Organizing Committee**

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**CONTACT DETAILS:**

Mobile No.: +91- 8811094076, 8638164498  
E-mail: dassm1969@gmail.com

visit Dispur College website : [www.dispurcollege.ac.in](http://www.dispurcollege.ac.in)

*Invitation*

*Indian Council of Philosophical Research  
Sponsored National Seminar*



Organized by  
Department of Philosophy  
Dispur College, Guwahati-06

in collaboration with  
Assam College Teachers' Association,  
Kamrup Metro Zone

Date : 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**TITLE: PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE INDIGENOUS RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHIES OF NORTH-EAST INDIA**

Venue: Dispur College Auditorium

To,

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# Invitation

Sir/ Madam,

The Department of Philosophy, Dispur College is organizing a National Seminar sponsored by ICPR, New Delhi on the topic: **"PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE INDIGENOUS RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHIES OF NORTH-EAST INDIA"**. The Seminar will be held on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

In this regard, papers are invited from university / college teachers / academicians, research scholars and students for the concerned area of topic.

Thanking you.

Dr. Amar Saikia  
Principal  
*Chairman*

Sashi Mohan Das  
Associate Professor  
*Convener*

Dr. Nabin Saikia  
President, ACTA,  
Kamrup Metro Zone  
*Vice Chairman*

Dr. Jayanta Deka  
Secretary, ACTA,  
Kamrup Metro Zone  
*Joint Convener*

National Seminar Organizing Committee  
Department of Philosophy, Dispur College

Last day of submission with full paper:  
21st December 2019

**Medium of writing:**  
English Microsoft word SOFT COPY,  
(the New Roman, font size 12, within three thousand words)

**PAPERS TO BE SENT TO: [dassm1969@gmail.com](mailto:dassm1969@gmail.com)**

Papers, recommended by a team of experts, will be published with ISBN Number on the last session of the seminar. All rights will be reserved for the Department of Philosophy, Dispur College in this regard.

Registration Fee Details	
1. For working teachers with paper presentation	Rs. 1500.00
2. For working teachers without paper presentation	Rs. 800.00
3. For research scholars and students with paper presentation	Rs. 1000.00
4. For research scholars and students without paper presentation	Rs. 700.00
5. For Dispur college students	Rs. 300.00

### Attendance

Attendance for participants is mandatory for all three days of the seminar failing which certificates will not be issued.

### BRIEF INTRODUCTION

In the Western philosophical tradition, there has been a focus on much philosophical debate and discussion on the philosophy of religion. Although not a living religion itself, theism forms a significant conceptual component of living religions like Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam. Moreover, beliefs within living religions - particularly beliefs of the historic Christian faith - have also occupied the attention of philosophers of religion. Thus, philosophy of religion has a rich and diverse history. It can be said that the history of philosophy of religion has been a global enterprise which can be demarcated by four historical time periods: the ancient world, the medieval world, the modern world and the contemporary world. Therefore, it can be said that the philosophy of religion is a vibrant and lively area of philosophy, with much debate and innovative developments, employing new methodologies to explore old questions.

The spectacular and extraordinary growth and vibrancy of contemporary philosophy of religion provides a wide range of exciting topics for debate from which we have chosen the following three general categories:

- those involving attacks on religious belief,
- those involving arguments for religious belief, and
- those involving internal evaluation of the coherence of certain religious beliefs.

Talking about the North-east of today, we can discuss the religious philosophies of several ethnic communities like the Rabhas, Khasis, Boros, Mizos, Karbis, Garos, Miris, Asama (ahom) etc.. We see all kinds of human imagination at work in their religious life-world. Nature worship is predominant with speculative tendencies on afterlife, karma, rebirth etc. We can clearly see a resonance of the beginning stages of early Vedic religion. The notions such as omniscient God, *Rta* or the cosmic moral order, nature worship which characterize early Vedic religion find parallels in the tribal religious world views. Another perspective in the area of philosophy of religion is to introduce the relationship between religion and nature. From this perspective questions may be raised as to what are the relationships between human beings, their diverse religions, and the Earth's living systems? There is every necessity to conduct more research on these religious world views.

### Approach and Objectives of Selecting the Topic / Theme:

This conference would explore several world views such as rites and rituals, Supreme God, spirits, elements of nature, karma, re-birth, ethics and morality. Indigenous Philosophical Studies would lead to further consolidation of the tribal world-views and would gain more and more acceptability across the academia. This conference would be a first step in this direction. The metaphysical, aesthetic, epistemological and moral values of indigenous communities need to be explored including tribal cultures and socio-political philosophies.