

**MYSTICISM IN WORLD RELIGIONS: A TWO DAY
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR- February 17 – 18, 2010**

Tentative Schedule

Venue: Conference Hall, CIT, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, for the Inaugural and all Sessions, Except the Valedictory Session, which will be at Gobind Sadan, Gadaipur, Delhi

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Inaugural session: 9:00 a.m. – 11: 30 a.m.

Introduction: Dr. I H Azad Faruqi, Director, Centre for the Study of Comparative Religions and Civilizations, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Welcome: Honorable Najeeb Jung Sahib, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia

And Dr. Surjit Kaur Jolly, Principal of SPM College of Delhi University and Secretary of Gobind Sadan Institute for Advanced Studies in Comparative Religion

Keynote speech: Ralph Singh, USA, Chair, Committee on Interfaith Education, North American Inter-faith Network. "The Forgotten Path: Accessing the Mystical within our Religious Traditions"

Comments Chief Guest: Honorable Vice-President of India, Hamid Ansari

Thanks: Mary Pat Fisher, USA, Gobind Sadan Institute for Advanced Studies in Comparative Religions, Baba Virsa Singh Ji Maharaj Memorial Trust

Tea-Break: 11:30 -1200

First Session: 12: 00 – 1: 30 Session Chair: Dr. Azizuddin Hussain

Acharya Shri Vats Goswami, "Mysticism in Vaishnava Tradition"

Dr. Surjit Kaur Jolly, "Mysticism in Sikhism"

Dr. Karma Lekshe Tsomo, "Knowing the Unknowable: An Analysis of Mysticism from a Buddhist Perspective"

Lunch: 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Second Session: 2:30 – 4 Chair: Madhu Khanna

Father Skariah, "Orthodox Christian Mysticism"

Dr. Azad Faruqi, "Development of Mystical Philosophy in Islam"

Dr. Samani Chaitanya Pajna, "Mystical Elements of Jain Religion"

Tea Break: 4:00 – 4:30

Third Session: 4:30 – 6 Chair: Vijaya Ramaswamy

Ludmila Timofeeva, "The Great Russian Mystic, Saint Sergei Radonisky"

Mary Pat Fisher, "Practical Application of Mysticism in the Lives of Saints and Prophets"

Apna Kaur, "Mystical Scenes from the Lives of Sikh Gurus"

Thursday, 18th February

Fourth Session: 9:30 – 11:30 Chair: Dr. George Gispert-Sauch

Dr. Azizuddin Hussain, "Sufism in India"

Madhu Khanna, "Alternate States of Consciousness in Tantric Worship: Theory and Practice"

Dr. Ali Ihsan Yitik, "Sufi Movements in Contemporary Turkey"

Amarjeev Lochan, "Mysticism in Buddhist Architecture"

Fifth Session: 12:00 – 1:30 Chair: Ralph Singh

Dr. George Gispert-Sauch, "Ignatius Loyola and his Spiritual Exercises"

Dr. Timothy S. Dobe, "Mystics and Faqirs in Punjab"

Dr. Vijaya Ramaswamy, "Of Mysticism and Madness: Hindu Women Saints"

Lunch: 1:30 – 2:15

Bus trip to Gobind Sadan: 2:30 – 3:30

Tour of Gobind Sadan: 3:30 - 4:30

Tea - 4:30 - 5

Valedictory session: 5 – 7 p.m.

Session Chair: Dr. Karan Singh

Welcome: Rai Singh, IAS, President of Baba Virsa Singh Ji Maharaj Memorial Trust

Valedictory remarks:

Dr. Azad Faruqi, Director, Centre for the Study of Comparative Religions and Civilizations, Jamia Millia Institute

Thanks: Mr. Churchill Chadha, Vice President, Gobind Sadan Institute for Advanced Studies in Comparative Religion, Baba Virsa Singh Ji Maharaj Memorial Trust

Dinner at Gobind Sadan: 7:30 -8: 30

Return of the Delegates staying at Jamia Campus: 8: 30 p.m.