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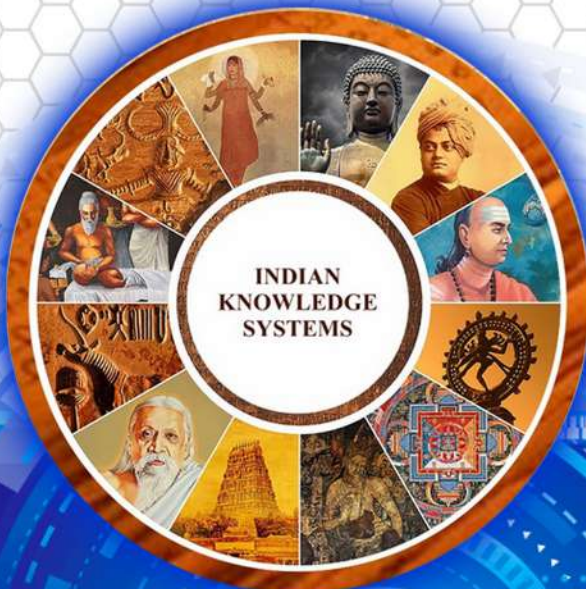
&
School of Buddhist Studies & Civilization
Gautam Buddha University
organizing

**THREE DAYS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON**

**"ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND INDIAN KNOWLEDGE
SYSTEMS: CHALLENGES AND FUTURE SCOPE"**

at
**GAUTAMA BUDDHA UNIVERSITY
GREATER NOIDA, U.P**
on

6th-8th November, 2025





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CONCEPT NOTE

INDIAN COUNCIL OF PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH (ICPR),
NEW DELHI,

&

SCHOOL OF BUDDHIST STUDIES & CIVILIZATION
GAUTAM BUDDHA UNIVERSITY

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1. Introduction and Background:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science that aims to create processes based on programming which are capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence. These tasks include learning from knowledge, experience, understanding language, recognizing patterns, solving problems, and suggestions in making decisions. What makes AI unique is its ability to **adapt, automate, and optimize** processes — from medical diagnosis to voice assistants, from self-driving cars to personalized learning tools. AI is not just a technological advancement; it represents a profound shift in how we interact with the world and with each other.



Indian Knowledge System (IKS) and its Importance: The Indian Knowledge System (IKS) is a vast and holistic intellectual tradition that encompasses philosophy, science, medicine, mathematics, astronomy, arts, literature, and spirituality, developed over millennia in the Indian subcontinent. Rooted in texts like the Vedas, Upanishads, Arthashastra, and Ayurveda, as well as in oral traditions and lived practices. It reflects an integrated worldview that balances material progress with ethical, spiritual, and ecological well-being. Their contribution—such as the concept of zero, Yoga, Ayurveda, and sustainable practices in agriculture and architecture—highlights both scientific ingenuity and practical wisdom. In today's context, IKS holds great importance as it offers timeless insights into health, education, governance, and environmental sustainability, while also nurturing cultural identity and global harmony. By blending ancient wisdom with modern innovation, IKS continues to serve as a valuable resource for building a more balanced, inclusive, and sustainable future.

Why AI Matters Today: It enhances the following dimensions: 1. **Efficiency:** AI automates routine tasks, reduces human error, and significantly saves time and resources. 2. **Insight:** It processes and analyzes vast amounts of data to uncover hidden patterns and trends that humans might miss. 3. **Innovation:** AI enables to achieve breakthrough in fields such as **healthcare** (e.g., disease diagnosis), **education** (adaptive learning), and **finance** (fraud detection, algorithmic trading). 4. **Transformation:** AI is fundamentally reshaping the way we think, **live, work, communicate**, and **make decisions**— impacting everything from personal lifestyles to global economies.

The Need for Intersection between IKS and AI: When AI systems become more autonomous, the core question shifts from **what AI can do** to **what it should do**. This calls for the integration of: **Ethical frameworks**, **Philosophical Reflection**, **Cultural insights** from ancient traditions like the **Indian Knowledge System (IKS)** and **Indian Philosophy**. These traditions offer timeless guidance on: The **nature of consciousness**, the importance of **intention and responsibility** the value of **compassion and non-harm (ahimsa)**.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has rapidly evolved into a transformative force impacting diverse areas are as such as communication, medicine, education, governance, and ethics. Presently, the current AI development is



largely shaped by Western philosophical and scientific frameworks. As India possesses a rich reservoir of indigenous knowledge systems (IKS), deeply rooted in philosophical traditions such as Vedanta, Nyaya, Buddhism, Jainism, Yoga, and Ayurveda, there is need to integrate and intersect with AI to gain deeper insights and develop suitable applications.

This Conference aims to initiate an interdisciplinary dialogue between AI and Indian Knowledge systems, exploring how these ancient epistemologies, ethical principles, logic systems, and linguistic theories can help innovation and enrich contemporary AI research and development

2. Objectives of the Conference:

- To Understand the challenges faced and explore the intersections between Indian Knowledge systems and AI
- To understand the Indian theories of knowledge, mind, cognition, and consciousness in relation to machine learning processes and artificial consciousness.
- To examine the ethical frameworks from the ancient Indian traditions that can guide development of a responsible AI.
- To promote indigenous approaches to AI using tools from Sanskrit linguistics, Navya- Nyaya logic, and epistemological models.
- To encourage collaboration between scholars of Philosophy, Sanskrit, Pali , AI, and cognitive science.
- To suggest and chart the future development between IKS and AI for enhance human understanding and progress.

3. Justification of the Grounds of Selecting the Theme

“Artificial Intelligence and Indian Knowledge Systems: Challenges and future scope”

The rapid advancement of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** has led to significant transformative changes in nearly every domain of modern life—from education to healthcare, ethics and good governance. However, the overwhelming dominance of Western thought and scientific paradigms in AI development has created a



knowledge gap in integrating **non-Western epistemologies**, especially those with deep philosophical, ethical, and cognitive insights.

Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)—encompassing a vast array of ancient intellectual traditions such as **Nyāya, Vedānta, Sāṃkhya, Buddhism, Jainism, Mīmāṃsā,** and **Pāṇini linguistics**—offers sophisticated frameworks for understanding **mind, consciousness, logic, epistemology, language, and moral reasoning**. These systems are not only culturally significant but also **philosophically rigorous** and **logically formalized**, making them highly relevant to current debates in AI on topics such as Artificial consciousness and cognition

1. **Logic, inference, and knowledge representation**
2. **Natural language understanding**
3. **Ethical AI and moral reasoning**

The proposed Conference aims to bridge the gap between ancient Indian Philosophical Traditions and contemporary AI research, fostering a trans-disciplinary dialogue that is both technically innovative and culturally rooted. It is a timely response to the growing call for decolonizing AI, embracing epistemic plurality, and ensuring that AI systems reflect diverse worldviews and value systems.:

Such an academic endeavor will serve as:

- An apt **platform for fostering interdisciplinary research**, combining philosophy, computer science, linguistics, and cultural studies.
- A **knowledge-sharing hub** for scholars, technologists, and practitioners interested in responsible AI.
- A catalyst for **Indigenous AI models**, based on holistic and context-sensitive approaches.

In sum, this Conference topic is justified by the **urgent global need** to rethink AI through the lens of **inclusive, ethical, and pluralistic knowledge systems**, and the **rich intellectual heritage of India** provides a fertile ground for such an endeavor.



Conference Themes and Subtopics

Core Themes

1. Indian Philosophical Concepts of Mind and Consciousness Vs Artificial Consciousness:

Explores foundational concepts such as **Ātman**, **Chitta**, **Manas**, and **Anattā** in Indian traditions and how they compare with or challenge the idea of machine consciousness. Can machines ever become sentient or self-aware from an Indic philosophical lens.

2. Pramāṇa: Navya-Nyaya and Formal Logic: Applications in AI:

Analyzes traditional epistemic instruments (pratyakṣa, anumāna, śabda, upamāna, arthāpatti, anupalabdhi) and compares them to AI models of learning and inference. This theme investigates how AI systems validate knowledge versus how it is justified in Indian philosophical systems like Nyāya or Mimāṃsā. Focuses on the structure of Navya-Nyāya logic, highly formalized school of Indian logic, and its relevance for AI, knowledge representation, and formal reasoning. It bridges the gap between ancient logical methods and contemporary algorithmic logic.

3. Sanskrit Computational Linguistics: Paninian Grammar and Natural Language Processing:

Explores how **Pāṇini's Ashtādhyāyī**, the ancient grammatical treatise, can inform rule-based NLP, linguistic modeling, and Sanskrit AI. Focus on **generative grammar**, **sandhi rules**, and **computational parsing** inspired by Indian linguistics

4. Buddhism and AI: Emptiness, Interdependence, and Machine Learning: Interrogates the Buddhist ideas of Śūnyatā (emptiness), Pratityasamutpāda (dependent origination), and Anattā (non-self) in the context of AI learning models. Raises questions about identity, agency, and causal networks in machine cognition.

5. Expected Outcomes

- A deeper understanding of how Indian philosophical systems can guide and enrich AI



development

- A repository of research papers and Conference proceedings
- Proposals for collaborative research, curriculum development, or indigenous AI projects
- Ethical frameworks inspired by Dharmic traditions
- Practical demonstrations of AI tools rooted in Indian knowledge (e.g., Sanskrit parsers,)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DIRECTOR

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