

Two days National Seminar

On

The Quest for Atmanirbhar Bharat: From the Past, Through the Present, to the Future

Scheduled on 25 to 26 September 2026

Concept Note

As the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies (IIAS), Shimla, is completing 60 years of its establishment, Bharat is aspiring to achieve the target of Viksit Bharat by the year 2047, with the philosophy of Atmanirbharata. This year is also commemorative year of sixty-years of the foundational political philosophy of Integral Humanism that sought to find Bharatiya alternative framework of governance and development. On the occasion of both these events, it is proposed to organise a National Seminar on the theme - “The Quest for Aatmanirbhar Bharat: From the Past, Through the Present to the Future” at the IIAS, Shimla.

The theme of the proposed seminar seeks to explore Bharat’s journey from the idea of Swaraj to the philosophy of Swadeshi, and from the Colonial Kaal to Aatmanirbhar Bharat @2047. The concepts of Swaraj, Swadeshi, and Aatmanirbhar Bharat are interrelated and deeply interconnected. The seminar will address this theme through broad and interdisciplinary perspectives, drawing upon diverse areas of knowledge and expertise of the scholars and practitioners.

When Deendayal Ji presented his thoughts Ekatma Manava Darshan (Integral Humanist Philosophy), bipolarity based on capitalism vs communism was the norm. The Bharatiya theory of holistic development, entitled ‘Integral Humanism’ was adopted in 1965 as a political doctrine, with a view to overcome all prevalent shortcomings of Capitalism and Communism. Then, Bharatiya Model of development as an option was not even considered as a credible thought in academic and policy discourse. Today, when communism has failed to provide an alternative to capitalism and capitalism has been facing cycle of crisis of inflation and deflation, environmental degradation and unstable international order, Deendayal Upadhyaya’s Ekatma Darshan provides a framework for sustainable and inclusive development for all with purely Bharatiya ethos. The two day seminar seeks to bring together academicians, thinkers,

practitioners, and policy makers to revisit Ekatma Manav Darshan in the post-Globalisation world and deliberate on the Dharmic model of development.

Nature and culture are two integral elements that shape the model of development. According to the Integral Humanist Approach, every nation and society has a distinctive consciousness and culture; hence any attempt to impose one size fits all approach will invariably be exploitative and unsustainable. After the three decades of American model of globalisation, this is all the more evident. The current model of globalisation is collapsing but alternative emerging in the form of state-controlled capitalism is even more uncertain and destructive. In such a uncertain world, it is worthwhile to revisit the philosophy of Akatma Manav Darshan to pursue the goal of Viksit Bharat based on Atmanirbharata. Can the wisdom of Vaudhaiva Kutumbakam provide the economic an institutional alternative to the humanity, how can we address the emerging technological challenges and what are the policy initiatives based on Ekatma Manava Darshan would provide us a guiding light in this process, these and similar set of questions need an in-depth and consistent churning while thinking the goal of Atmanirbhar and Viksit Bharat.

When Bharat is striving to realise the goal of being Viksit (developed) with the route of Atmanirbharata, it cannot be imitation of any foreign model. Whether Integral Humanist Approach can help us in achieving this goal, is the core question this seminar seeks to address. While explaining the integral philosophy Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya did not argue for returning to the old systems or rejecting everything that is based on Western idea of modernity. He gave a two fold formula. Firstly, learn from the past, understand the present and work for the future. Secondly, whatever is swadeshi (national) should be made Yuganukul (in tune with the contemporary times) and whatever is Videshi (Foreign) should be Deshanukul (transformed as per the national ethos). With this framework, Atmanirbharata is beyond economic and technological self-sufficiency, and evolving governance and development model as per the Chiti or National Spirit, so that the Virat or the manifestation of the national spirit can be achieved. The seminar can revisit this fundamental framework of Integral Humanist Philosophy and re-contextualise the same for the present challenges, to devise the strategy for the future.

The seminar will focus on the following themes:

1. Concept of Viksit Bharat through Atmanirbharata
2. Revisiting the philosophy of Ekatama Manav Darshan

3. Ekatma Manav Darshan and Present Global Scenario
4. Past Practices, Present Success stories
5. Present challenges and future trajectories
6. Viksit Bharat, Atmanirbharata and Ekatma Manav Darshan
7. Technological advancement and Viksit Bharat
8. Education, Healthcare and Population: An Integral Humanist Perspective
9. Disparities and development: Evolving a Bharatiya Solution
10. Gender Complementarity- Women-led development for Viksit Bharat
11. Intercontextuality of swaraj-swadeshi and atmanibhar Bharat.
12. Economic contextuality of the trio

Call for Papers

A limited number of scholars of repute are invited for the IAS owned Seminar. Those interested in participating should send (preferably by email) an abstract (300 words) of the proposed paper in English along with their C.V. (One page) directly to Dr. Aayushi Ketkar Email: aayushi.ketkar@gmail.com and **copy to the Academic Resource Officer, Indian institute of Advanced Study, Shimla on his Email seminar@iias.ac.in** Tel: 0177-2831385

The abstract should clearly state the objectives, methodology, and relevance of the proposed paper including 4–6 keywords. The last date for submission of abstracts (300 Words) is **05 August 2026 by 05:00 PM**. The Institute intends to send Invitation letters to selected participants by the 15th July, 2026. It is the policy of the Institute to publish the papers not proceedings of the seminars it organizes. Hence, all invited participants will be expected to submit complete papers (4000 to 5000 words) hitherto unpublished and original, with citations in place, along with a reference section, to the Convener and copy to the Academic Resource Officer, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla– 171005 by **30th August 2026**.

Last date of submission of Abstracts/Bio note = 05th July 2026 by 05:00 PM
Last date of Submission of Full Paper = 30th August 2026

Guidelines for submission

Font- Times New Roman
Font Size- 12
Paragraph spacing- 1.5

Bibliographical References

- Bibliographical references should be in a consistent style. For detailed instructions we refer to either of the following 3 books: *The Chicago Manual of Style*, *Hart's Rules*, or *Butcher's*

Copy-editing. Please cross-check references to see that each reference makes sense and matches the relevant bit in the main text.

Books

- Single Author

Chaudhuri, Amit, *Afternoon Raag*, London: Heinemann, 1993. p72.

Surname, First name, *Title of Book*, Place of Publication: Publisher, (date) and page.

- Multiple Authors

Basu, Tapan, Pradip Datta, Sumit Sarkar, Tanika Sarkar, and Sambuddha Sen, *Khaki Shorts Saffron Flags (Tracts for the Times/1)*, Hyderabad: Orient Longman, 1993 and page.

Surname of first Author, First name of first Author and First name of second Author, Surname of second Author etc., *Title of Book*, Place of Publication: Publisher, (date) and page.

Edited Volume

- Single author

George, K.M. (ed.), *Modern Indian Literature: An Anthology, Plays and Prose*, Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 1994 and page.

- Multiple authors

Ashcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin (eds), *The Empire Writes Back* [1989], London and New York: Routledge, 1995 and page.

Translated Volume

- Kemal, Yasher (trans. from Turkish by Thilda Kemal), *The Wind from the Plain* [1960], London: Harvill Press, 1989 and page.

Paper in Edited Volume

- Single Author and Single Editor

Masselos, J.C., 'The Khojas of Bombay: The Defining of Formal Membership Criteria During the Nineteenth Century', in *Caste and Social Stratification among the Muslims*, Imtiaz Ahmad (ed.), Delhi: Manohar Book Service, 1973.

Surname, First name of Author, 'Title of Paper', in *Title of Book*, First name of Editor Surname of Editor (ed.), Place of Publication: Publisher, (date) and page.

- Single Authors and Multiple Editors

Salomon, C., 'The cosmogonic riddles of Lalan Faqir', in *Gender, Genre and Power in South Asian Expressive Traditions*, A. Appadurai, F. Korom, and M. Mills (eds), Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1991 and page.

Surname of Author, First name of Author, 'Title of Paper', in *Title of Book*, First name of first Editor Surname of first Editor and First name of second Editor Surname of second Editor (eds), Place of Publication: Publisher, (date) and page.

Paper in Journal

- Single Author

Bouiller, V., 'The Nepalese State and Gorakhnathi Yogis: The Case of the Former Kingdoms of Dang Valley, 18th-19th Centuries', *Contribution to Nepalese Studies*, 20 (1), 1993, pp. 29-52.

Surname, first name, 'Title of Paper', *Name of Journal*, Volume number (Issue number), (date), pp. 000-0.

- Multiple Authors

Murty, M. N. and R. Ray, 'A Computational Procedure for Calculating Optimal Commodity Taxes with Illustrative Evidence from Indian Budget Data', *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, 91(4), 1989, pp.655-70.

Surname of first Author, First name of first Author and First name of second Author Surname of second Author, 'Title of Paper', *Name of Journal*, Volume number (Issue number), (date), pp. 000-0.

Paper in Edited Journal

- Single author

Gaborieau, Marc, 'Life-Cycle Ceremonies among Converted Muslims in Nepal and Northern India', in Islam in Asia, Yohanan Friedmann (ed.), vol. I, *South Asia*, Jerusalem: Magnes Press, Hebrew University, 1984 and page.

Unpublished Papers/Mimeographs/Discussion Papers/Working Papers

Chander, P. and L. Wide, 'Corruption and Tax Compliance', mimeo, New Delhi: Indian Statistical Institute, 1989.

Surname of first Author, First name of first Author and First name of second Author Surname of second Author (1991), 'Title of Paper', mimeo, Place: Organization, (date).

Newspaper: Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Name of Newspaper* (City and Province/State of Publication, if not Included in Name), Date of Publication. <https://doi.org/DOI Number> or Name of Database.

Website/URL:

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- Author Last Name, First Name. "Page Title." *Website Name*, Month Day, Year. URL.
- Example: Schallhorn, Cathlyn. "Chicago." *Britannica*, December 17, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Chicago>
- Full Note: First Name Last Name, "Page Title," *Website Name*, Month Day, Year, URL.
 - Example: 1. Jack Caulfield, "A Step-by-Step Guide to the Writing Process," *Scribbr*, April 24, 2020, <https://www.scribbr.com/academic-writing/writing-process/>

If there is no author or date:

- Bibliography: "Title of Page." *Website Name*, accessed Month Day, Year. URL.
 - Example: "About the UvA." University of Amsterdam, accessed July 24, 2018. <http://www.uva.nl/en/about-the-uva>
- Full Note: "Title of Page," *Website Name*, accessed Month Day, Year, URL.
 - Example: 1. "Catholic News Agency," accessed March 25, 2025, <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/>

Citing blog posts and blogs

- Citing blog posts and blogs Blog posts are cited like—quotation marks; the title of the blog, in italics; the date of the post; and a URL. Blogs that are part of a larger...clear from the titles, the word blog may be added in parentheses after the title of the blog. Blog posts can often be cited in...2. William Germano, "Futurist Shock," *Lingua Franca* (blog), *Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 15, 2017, <https://www...>

News sites and blogs

- News sites and blogs Titles of news websites and blogs, like the titles of newspapers and other...along with the title. Titles of articles and blog posts should be placed in quotation marks (untitled posts...Wasted Food; "Food Waste Stump Speech," in *Wasted Food*, a blog by Jonathan Bloom Huff Post; "The Best and Worst...

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- Titles for websites, blogs, and social media Whether they are mentioned in the text or...quotation marks) may be used for generic or descriptive titles. Blogs are treated like periodicals, their titles set in italics...Merriam-Webster.com CMOS Shop Talk; the Shop Talk blog YouTube.

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