

International Conference on

DIVERGENT PATHS, CONVERGING VISIONS: INDIA AND GREECE IN PHILOSOPHICAL AND THEOLOGICAL DIALOGUE

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Luminous Darkness

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NKUA



Dr Paulos Mar Gregorios Chair



School of Gandhian Thought
and Development Studies



• APRIL 24,25 AND 26, 2026 •

P. D. Hills P.O, Kottayam,
Kerala, India

Program Schedule

INDO - GREEK CONFERENCE

Theme: **Divergent paths Converging visions: India and Greece in Philosophical and Theological Dialogue**

 **Date: 24th April 2026**

 **Venue: Convergence Hall, Mahatma Gandhi University**

9:00 AM

Registration & Morning Coffee

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Inauguration

Convergence Hall	Seminar Hall, 1 st Floor, Gandhi Bhavan
11:15 AM - 12:35 PM Session 1A - Plato and Time	11:15 AM - 12:35 PM Session 1B - Self and Dialectics
14:30 PM - 16:30 PM Session 2A - Aristotle and Ethics	14:30 PM - 16:30 PM Session 2B - Indo-Greek Culture

 **Date: 25th April 2026**

Convergence Hall	Seminar Hall, 1 st Floor, Gandhi Bhavan
9:30 AM - 11:25 AM Session 3A - Greek and Theology	9:30 AM - 11:25 AM Session 3B - Texts & Traditions
11:40 AM - 13:35 PM Session 4A - Kingship & Symbolism	11:40 AM - 13:35 PM Session 4B - Politics & Ethics
14:45 PM - 16:55 PM Session 5A - Cross-Cultural Ethics	14:45 PM - 16:55 PM Session 5B - Trade & Networks

 **Date: 26th April 2026**

 **Venue: Seminar Hall, 1st Floor, Gandhi Bhavan**

14:30 PM - 16:55 PM

16:55 PM - 17:25 PM

17:25 PM - 17:50 PM

Session 6 - Psychology & Consciousness

Future Directions in Indo-Greek Dialogue

Conclusion



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INAUGURATION

Date: 24th April, 2026

**Mahatma Gandhi
University Campus**



Convergence Hall
Ground floor, Convergence
Academia Complex

Registration & Morning Coffee	09:00 am
Invocation	09:30 am
Welcome Address: Prof. Dr. Noushad P P , Director, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, MG University	09:35 am
Inaugural Address: Prof. Dr C. T. Aravindakumar , Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University	09:45 am
Plenary Address: Athens University	10:00 am
Felicitations	10:10 am
Vote of Thanks: Dethri Foundation	10:20 am
Inaugural Keynote Lecture	10:25 am
Paulose Mar Gregorios on Philosophy of East and West	
<i>Fr. Dr. K. M. George</i> , Chair of the Paulose Mar Gregorios Chair at MG University, Kottayam	
Q & A, Discussion	10:50 am

More information visit:
www.dethrifoundation.org



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SESSION 1 (A & B)

24th April, 11:15 - 12:35



A

PLATONIC METAPHYSICS AND TIME



Convergence Hall

Chair: Prof. Dr. Noushad P P, Director, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, MG University, Kottayam.

11:15 am

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Abey Koshy**, HOD and Professor of philosophy emeritus at Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala

11:25 am

Paper Title: **Plato, Eternal Recurrence, and the Repetitive view of Time**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. Panneerselvam S**, The General Secretary of the Indian Philosophical Congress and the member of Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi .

12:00 pm

Paper Title: **The Concrete Human Individual in Plato and Self as Transcendental Reality in Sankara: A Parallel Study**

B

SELF, ILLUSION AND DIALECTICS



Seminar Hall, 1st floor, Gandhi Bhavan

Chair: Prof. Dr. M. H. Illyas, Professor - School of Gandhian Thought and Developmental Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

11:15 am

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Kuruvilla Pandikattu SJ**, Chair Professor of JRD Tata Foundation on Business Ethics at XLRI, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.

11:25 am

Paper Title: **Plato's Imagery of the Cave and Māyā in Indian Philosophy: A Comparative Study**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. R. Lekshmi**, Professor, Head & Director, Centre for Applied Philosophy and Research, Department of Philosophy, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

12:00 pm

Paper Title: **Debate, Dialogue and Dialectics in Indian Philosophy**



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SESSION 2 (A & B)

24th April, 14:30 - 16:40



A | ARISTOTELIAN ETHICS AND COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY



Convergence Hall

Chair: Prof. Dr. Evangelos D. Protopapadakis, Professor and Director of the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Laboratory, University of Athens, Greece.

14:30 pm

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Sreekala M. Nair**, Director-International School of Sree Sankaracharya Studies and Senior Professor, Department of Philosophy, SSUS, Kalady, Kerala.

14:40 pm

Paper Title: **Aristotelian Thought and its Resonance in Indian Schools of Realism: A Cross Cultural Study**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. C D Sebastian**, Professor of Indian Philosophy at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Mumbai.

15:15 pm

Paper Title: **Buddhist Ethics as Predominantly Virtue Ethics**

Speaker 3: **Prof. Dr. Ioannis Kalogerakos**, Professor of Ancient Greek Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, NKUA, Greece.

16:05 pm

Paper Title: **Aristotle's Ethics and Some Indian Philosophical Parallels**

B | INDO-GREEK CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL INTERACTIONS



Seminar Hall, 1st floor, Gandhi Bhavan

Chair: Prof. Dr. Jyoti Sahi, Freelance artist and writer, Art Ashram, Silvepura, Bangalore

14:30 pm

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Ajay S. Sekhar**, Associate Professor of English and founder coordinator of Centre for Buddhist Studies at SSUS, Kalady, Kerala

14:40 pm

Paper Title: **The Greek Influence on Buddhist Cultures in India: Philosophy, Literature and Arts**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. Nikolaos A. Denaxas**, Assistant Professor in Sociology of Religion, Department of Social Theology and Religious Studies, Theology School, NKUA, Greece.

15:15 pm

Paper Title: **Religious tradition - Politics - Leadership: symbols and symbolisms in Greece and India**

Speaker 3: **Prof. Dr. P. A. Mathew**, Founder and Chairman of Grace International Academy and Managing trustee of Palakunnathu Foundation

16:05 pm

Paper Title: **Practical Wisdom Across Traditions: A Comparative Study of Phronesis and Yukta in 21st-Century Leadership.**



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SESSION 3 (A & B)

25th April, 9:30 - 11:25



A

GREEK LANGUAGE AND THEOLOGY



Convergence Hall

Chair: Prof. Fr. Dr. K. M. George, Chair Professor for PMG Chair, MG University, and Director- Sopana Orthodox Academy, Kottayam.

9:30 am

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Georgios D Panagopoulos**, Professor of Dogmatics, University Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens, Greece and Adjunct Professor, AHOS, USA.

9:40 am

Paper Title: **Greek Language and Eastern Christianity**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. Miltiadis Vantsos**, Professor, Christian Ethics and Bioethics, School of Social Theology and Christian Culture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

10:15 am

Paper Title: **Man as Microcosm: The Christian Perception of a Philosophical Concept**

Speaker 3: **Mr. Fadi Nasr**, Founder and Director - Beirut Community Center, Lebanon

Paper Title: **From Polis to Parish: The Impact of Hellenic Thought on the Evolution of Antiochene Theology.**

10:50 am

B

TEXTS, TRADITIONS AND THEOLOGICAL EXPRESSIONS



Seminar Hall, 1st floor, Gandhi Bhavan

Chair: Prof. Fr. Dr. Renish Geevarghese A, HOD and Professor of English, Department of English, St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

9:30 am

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Akhlaque Ahmad**, Professor & Chairperson at the Center or Persian and Central Asian Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi

9:40 am

Paper Title: **The image of Jesus Christ in Persian Poetry**

Speaker 2: **Mr. George Thomas**, Visiting Professor, Department of Syriac, Pontifical Oriental Institute of Religious Studies, Kottayam.

10:15 am

Paper Title: **From the Middle East to Malankara: The Syriac Peshitta of Mar Thoma VI and the Syriac Heritage of the Indian Church**

Speaker 3: **Rev. Bobby Mathew**, PhD Candidate, School of Gandhian Thoughts and Developmental Studies, MG University, Kottayam

10:50 am

Paper Title: **The Symbolism of Arnion Esphagmenon(Slaughtered Lamb) in the Greek Bible and its Relevance to the Marginalized / Subaltern Communities in India**



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SESSION 4 (A & B)

25th April, 11:40 - 13:35



Convergence Hall

A | *KINGSHIP, POLITICAL SYMBOLISM AND CULTURAL INTERACTION*

Chair: Prof. Dr. Sreekala M. Nair, Director-International School of Sree Sankaracharya Studies and Senior Professor, Department of Philosophy, SSUS, Kalady, Kerala. **11:40 am**

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Sivadas K K**, Professor and Head of Department, Department of Malayalam, Kerala University, Trivandrum. **11:50 am**

Paper Title: **Formation of Kingship in South India - A Study Based on Sangam Literature**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. Vinay Kumar**, Associate Professor, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. **12:25 pm**

Paper Title: **Mauryan Imperial Symbolism and Greek Motifs and its Impact on Art of South India**

Speaker 3: **Mr. V. Selvakumar**, Head of the Department and Coordinator, Centre for Indian Ocean Studies, Tamil University, Thanjavur. **13:00 pm**

Paper Title: **Indo-Greek Cultural Interactions as Revealed through Texts, Epigraphy, and Archaeology.**

B | *POLITICAL THEORY AND GANDHIAN ETHICS*



Seminar Hall, 1st floor, Gandhi Bhavan

Chair: Prof. Dr. Miltiadis Vantsos, Professor, Christian Ethics and Bioethics, School of Social Theology and Christian Culture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. **11:40 am**

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Pius V. Thomas**, Professor and Head of Department, Department of Philosophy, Assam University, Silchar. **11:50 am**

Paper Title: **Ahimsa and Democracy: The Metaethics of Power and Institutions in Gandhi.**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. Noushad P P**, Director, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, MG University, Kottayam. **12:25 pm**

Paper Title: **Gandhi's Critique of Western Civilization/ Materialism**

Speaker 3: **Rev. Dr. Wilson Paluri**, Professor of Religion, Gurukul Lutheran Theological College, Chennai. **13:00 pm**

Paper Title: **Ramanuja's Theistic Communitarianism and the Reimagining of Political Virtue in Indo-Hellenic Dialogue**



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SESSION 5 (A & B)

25th April, 14:55 - 16:55



A | ETHICS AND BIOETHICS IN CROSS-CULTURAL



Convergence Hall

Chair: Prof. Dr. Panneerselvam S, The General Secretary of the Indian Philosophical Congress and the member of Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi . **14:45 pm**

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Evangelos D. Protopapadakis**, Professor and Director of the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Laboratory, University of Athens, Greece. **14:55 pm**

Paper Title: **In Pursuit of Holiness: A Kantian Approach to Moral Enhancement**

Speaker 2: **Ms. Maria Zanou**, Research Fellow at the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Laboratory , Athens, Greece **15:30 pm**

Paper Title: **Virtue and Its Relevance in Bioethics: An Intercultural Approach**

Speaker 3: **Prof. Dr. C. R. Harilakshmeendra Kumar and Mr. Manas Jyoti Talukdar**, Professor and PhD candidate respectively, MG University, Kottayam. **16:20 pm**

Paper Title: **Truth, Conscience, and Moral Resistance: Socrates and Gandhi in a Technocratic Age**

B | TRADE, NETWORKS AND INTELLECTUAL CONVERGENCES



Seminar Hall, 1st floor, Gandhi Bhavan

Chair: Prof. Dr. Vinay Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi **14:45 pm**

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. K. P. Shajan**, Museum Consultant, Co-Director and Key Researcher, Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR), Pattanam, Kochi. **14:55 pm**

Paper Title: **Ships from Delos to India- Greco-Roman Wine Trade and Red Sea Volcanic Ballast.**

Speaker 2: **Ms. Samar Azazi**, PhD Candidate, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, MG University, Kottayam. **15:30 pm**

Paper Title: **Frankincense, Pepper, and Gold: Commodities as Agents of Connection in the Ancient Greece-Yemen-India Triangle**

Speaker 3: **Ms. Apurva Sinha**, PhD Candidate, Sristi Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology, MAHE, Bengaluru. **16:20 pm**

Paper Title: **From Comparison to Convergence: Philology and the Making of Indo-Greek connections in the late 18th century India**



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SESSION 6

26th April, 14:30 - 16:55



PSYCHOLOGY, CONSCIOUSNESS AND ETHICAL FORMATION

Seminar Hall, 1st floor, Gandhi Bhavan



Chair: Dr. George John, Writer, Thinker and Retired Consultant Psychiatrist, Kochi. **14:30 pm**

Keynote Address: **Psychology / Psychotherapy in Greek and Indian Philosophical Traditions**

Speaker 1: **Prof. Dr. Varghese Punnoose**, Professor of Psychiatry and Principal, Government Medical College, Kottayam. **15:05 pm**

Paper Title: **Philosophical roots of psychotherapy in Indian settings**

Speaker 2: **Prof. Dr. Jyoti Sahi**, Freelance artist and writer, Art Ashram, Silvepura, Bangalore **15:40 pm**

Paper Title: **From Psyche to Bodhisatva: Gandharan Art and the Emergence of a Transcultural Consciousness**

Tea Break **16:15 pm**

Speaker 3: **Fr. George Chinnappan**, PhD Candidate, Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram, Christ University, Bangalore **16:30 pm**

Paper Title: **The Digital Kurukshetra and the Path of Praxis: A Fourfold Formation of Conscience through the Convergent Vision of Logos, Dharma, and Synderesis**

Speaker 4: **Oseagah Mary Osemudiamen**, PhD Candidate, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, MG University, Kottayam. **17:05 pm**

Paper Title: **Ubuntu as a Philosophical Bridge between Indian and Greek Philosophy**

Future Directions in Indo-Greek Dialogue **17:20 pm**

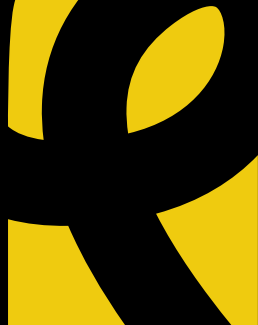
Closing **17:45 pm**



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School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies



REGISTRATION

FOR IN-PERSON AND ONLINE PARTICIPATION

APRIL 24-26, 2026

9:30 AM - 5:15 PM



The School of Gandhian Thought and Developmental Studies,
MG University, Kottayam

Registration Fees for In-Person participation

For single day (food inclusive) 1000 INR

For all three days (food inclusive) 2500 INR

Accommodation - Per day (non-AC), Single occupancy 500 INR

Registration fees for Online participation

For single day 500 INR

For all all three days 1250 INR

Scan here

to make the payment



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