



Islamic Studies



Social Science



University Mosque



Medicine



Unani Medicine

## *T-PhiSci* *Announcement*

### **National Conference on Philosophy-Science Interface: Key Issues & Texts**

**(T-PhiSci)**

**April 20-22, 2017**

**Department of Ilmul Advia, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh**

**Co-Sponsor:**

**Centre for Studies and Research (CSR), Hyderabad**

We are happy to announce that a “National Conference on Philosophy-Science Interface: Key Issues and Texts”, will be held at the Department of Ilmul Advia, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh on 20-22 April, 2017.

The Conference will undertake a rigorously perspectivized survey of key texts, to take ahead the *inter-disciplinary process* of Philosophy-led critiquing and optimization of contemporary Learning, Sciences and Disciplines which was introduced at the National Workshop on Fundamental Issues in Knowledge and its Acquisition (FIKA), held at the Department of Ilmul Advia, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh in March 2015. (FIKA Report, FIKA Resolutions and FIKA Synopsis are available on this website.)

The Department of Ilmul Advia has developed expertise in restated Traditional Philosophy (Falsafa), engaged with Modern Philosophy and Science, to guide the advancement of Unani Medicine. Since, this plenary Philosophy –Traditional Trans-material Philosophy engaged with Positivist Modern Philosophy – is also being demanded for the optimization of modern natural and human sciences, the Department launched a wide inter-disciplinary process of introducing and linking plenary Philosophy to various Disciplines initiated by FIKA. This unique achievement draws on the commitment of Indian Society and State, in general, and, of Aligarh Muslim University, in particular, to modulate and integrate ‘Modernity’ with Tradition.

The Conference will include Lectures and Papers. The Lectures will focus on issues, while Papers may focus on issues or texts. As obvious, teachers and students from all disciplines can participate in the Seminar. However, Philosophy, Unani Medicine, other Traditional Medicines, Western Medicine, Islamic Studies, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Education, History and Literature are most close to this exercise.

In light of the extended role of Philosophy in Traditional Medicines, which being Trans-material are directly derived from it, a Symposium on Comparative Philosophy of Traditional and Western Philosophy will also be held.

A synopsis and list of correlated topics and texts expected to be covered in the Seminar are given below. The texts may be introduced or reviewed in the perspective of relevant issues. The aim is to survey existing knowledge on Philosophy based critique and optimization of contemporary Learning.

The FIKA Resolutions, FIKA Synopsis and FIKA Report of FIKA, as well as, other texts present on this website, should also be consulted to clarify the perspective in which the texts are to be introduced or reviewed. Other relevant topics and texts may also be discussed.

To keep the exercise fully interactive, the Conference will include only 50 delegates. All possible assistance will be provided for travel and hospitality.

You are most cordially invited to send the topic and synopsis for your proposed Paper, along with the Registration Form. The accepted topics will have to be followed by an Abstract. You may also send request for participation without contributing Paper. Looking forward to having you with us at the Conference,

**Director**

Professor Kunwar Mohammad Yusuf Amin  
Department of Ilmul Advia

**Organizing Secretary**

Dr. Abdul Majid Khan  
Department of Islamic Studies

Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202002, India.

**Co-Sponsor:** Centre for Study and Research (CSR), Hyderabad.

## Synopsis

The increasing aridity and impasses of Learning and, the snow-balling civilizational and natural crises, are all calling for a fundamental critique of Learning.

Sciences, Natural and Human, Modern and Traditional, can be characterized, critiqued and optimized only by a Philosophy geared to entire Reality: Sensory, Supra-Sensory, Transcendental; and, obtained by an equally integral method constituted of intellection, ratiocination and observation.

This type of Philosophy exists in a fully expressed form only as Traditional Philosophy: Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Scholastic, Greek, Far Eastern etc. But faint and louder echoes exist in the otherwise materialistic post-renaissance western civilization also, such as, Metaphysical Poets, Romanticism, New England Transcendentalism, Trans-Modernism etc.

Fortunately, this type of plenary Philosophy has also found expression in a newly emerging meta form of all Traditional Philosophies, correlated with Modern Philosophy, thanks mainly to Guenon, Coomaraswamy, Schuon, SH Nasr, Huston Smith etc. This meta-form is rather an epiphenomenon of a more basic exercise, namely, a contemporary restatement of various Traditional Philosophies by the same thinkers.

While this plenary Philosophy is emerging in a topical form engaged with present times by the continuing restatement of Traditional Philosophies and their correlation with modern philosophy and issues, critical mass has been generated to start applying this plenary Philosophy towards the critique and optimization of contemporary Learning.

The Department of Ilmu Advia, developing this type of Philosophy for its own specific need of guiding the advancement of Trans-Material Unani Medicine in a Positivist environment, was naturally the first to recognize and interact with this globally emerging discourse.

The National Workshop on Fundamental Issues in Knowledge and its Acquisition (FIKA) held at the Department in March 2015, summarized and rounded off this emerging plenary Philosophy, mainly in relation to the task of critiquing and optimization of contemporary Learning, Sciences and Disciplines (Resolutions & Report enclosed).

FIKA, pressing plenary Philosophy to the critique of contemporary Learning and Sciences in a general manner, was obliged to be synoptic. This had to be followed by more detailed consideration of the premises and points of that dialectic.

The National Seminar on Philosophy-Science Interface: Key Issues and Texts (T-PhiSci), a survey of existing knowledge of the area, is being undertaken as the first logical step in Philosophy-based critique of contemporary Learning.

*The survey will take the form of **reviewing texts** in the perspective of key issues.*

*The area covered will be Philosophy-based critique of Learning, Sciences and Disciplines.*

*This will then include not Philosophy or the Sciences, as such, but (i) the most general aspects of Philosophy, (ii) the general aspects of Learning and Natural and Human Sciences and (iii) those parts of Philosophy which relate to Learning in general and to Natural and Human Sciences. The history of various developments, wherever useful for understanding them, will also be included.*

*So, it will include the most basic levels, and mutual interfaces, of Metaphysics, Cosmology, Philosophic Anthropology and Psychology, Philosophic part of Traditional Medicines, particularly of Unani Medicine, Ethics, Philosophy of Nature, Philosophy of Art, Philosophic aspects of Sociology, Politics, Economics, Islamic Studies, Education, Literary Theory and Criticism etc. Philosophic aspects of Theology, History, Law, Mathematics etc will, in all probability, have to be deferred for the future.*

*Since, Traditional Medicines (TMs), including Unani Medicine, are derived from Philosophic Cosmologies, so, plenary Philosophy is needed not only for general characterization of TMs but also for correctly understanding and applying to Health-care, their supra-material patho-physiological principles, qualitative and subjective diagnostic parameters and holistic and natural therapeutic interventions.*

*Secondly, since, current Health-care is determined by materialistic western medicine, comparative philosophy of traditional and western medicine is needed to find elements from modern science that are appropriate to trans-material TMs and determine the proper place of these modern elements within the TMs.*

*So, the Conference will include a **Symposium on Comparative Philosophy of Traditional and Western Medicine.***

## Key Issues & Texts

- i. The texts have been placed against that issue or issues, to whom they are most closely related. However, they may include other issues also. So, the texts may be introduced / reviewed with respect to all issues covered by them, or, only with respect to those issues against whom they have been put in the following list.
- ii. The texts available with the Organisers may be provided on request by e-mail

S.No	Issues	Texts
1	Modern & Traditional Philosophy, particularly Metaphysics	<a href="http://www.4pt.su/en/content/tradition-and-philosophy-modern-times">http://www.4pt.su/en/content/tradition-and-philosophy-modern-times</a> <a href="http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/kalin/The%20Sacred%20versus%20the%20Secular.doc">http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/kalin/The%20Sacred%20versus%20the%20Secular.doc</a>
2	Relation of Revelation and Religion to Philosophy	<a href="http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/ip/nasr-ip2.htm">http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/ip/nasr-ip2.htm</a>
3	Metaphysics benefits from Revelation & Religion via 'Esotericism' not 'Mysticism'	
4	Basic Issues in Religion-Philosophy Relation: Need for complementing Theology by Philosophy in any religious universe; Nature of Religion-Philosophy Relation: Interaction of Revelation and Intellection, Interaction of a Revelation with Learning of previous and parallel Traditions, the required type of Exegesis, etc.	<a href="http://www.philosophyandscripture.org/Issue2-1/SH_Nasr/sh_nasr.html">http://www.philosophyandscripture.org/Issue2-1/SH_Nasr/sh_nasr.html</a>
5	Traditional Philosophies: Islamic, Hindu, Scholastic, Greek, Far- Eastern: Restatement; Unity in Diversity, Correlation & Meta-Language.	Nasr: Isl Mod World pp.110-113
6	Some basic differences of Modern & Traditional Philosophy and Sciences: Unique and Exclusivist / Unified and	<u>Philosophy</u> Nasr: Isl Mod World pp.165-187

	Pluralist; Only Discursive / Discursive + Symbolical, etc.	<u>Sciences</u> Nasr: Rel Nat pp.126-129
7	Traditional Islamic Philosophy: Unity, Morphological & Chronological Variety and Islamic Status of various Types.	Nasr: Isl Phil pp.1-48 Nasr: YMGMW pp.75-84**
8	Fashioning Academic Courses of Traditional Philosophy: To be based on a particular Tradition: Islamic, Hindu etc; Other Traditional Philosophies be appended and correlated; Correlation & Application to issues in Modern Philosophy and Thought.	Nasr: Isl Mod World pp.165-187
4	Cosmology: Universal, Particular, Supra-Corporeal & Corporeal (Supra-Material & Material).	Guenon: Nasr Isl Mod World pp. 165-187
5	History of Philosophy: Transcendentalist (Traditional Philosophies), Positivist (Materialist Western Modern Philosophy), Para-Positivist (Non-Materialist Western Modern Philosophy), Re-emergent Transcendentalist / Perennialist Philosophy, etc.	Yusuf Amin Nasr: Isl Mod World pp. 165-187 <a href="http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/kalin/The%20Sacred%20versus%20the%20Secular.doc">http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/kalin/The%20Sacred%20versus%20the%20Secular.doc</a>
6	Non-Materialist Reading of Ancient Greek Philosophy	Nasr: Isl Mod World pp. 165-187
7	Emergence of Positivist / Materialist Philosophy: Res Cogitans & Res Extensae / Primary and Secondary Qualities - From Descartes to Darwin & Logical Positivists, Post-Modernist Version Para-Positivist Philosophy: Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Hermeticism, Trans-Modernism Re-emergent Transcendentalist	Nasr: Isl Mod World pp. 165-187 Nasr: Rel Nat pp.100-103 Smith: Quantum Enigma

	Philosophy: Guenon, Coomaraswamy, Schuon, SH Nasr	
	Various approaches to the Meaning of Modern Science in the Islamic World (cf. Ibrahim Kalin etc)	
	Modern Quantitative Science: Progress or Compensation	
	Degrees or Levels of Being	Schuon: Dim Isl pp.142-158
	Linkages of the Corporeal (Material) Level to Higher Levels	
	Knowledge; Types of Knowledge: Qualitative, Quantitative etc ; Means of acquiring various types of Knowledge	
	Symbolism or Symbolical Language of Knowledge	
	The Islamic & Hindu approach to Reality	
	The correct meaning of Transcendence, the Absolute, Infinity, Eternity etc	Eternity: Guenon: Mult St: pp.7-12
	The difference between Intellection and Ratiocination	
	Changes with the March of Time: Evolution/Progress or Regression/Decadence	Lings: The Eleventh Hour
	The basic cosmic & psychic change in contemporary times: Increase of 'the Individual' and receding of 'the Universal': the response of Modern West (European Renaissance), Islam & Earlier Traditions	Yusuf Amin

	Metaphysics	
	Cosmology	Lings: The Eleventh Hour
	Philosophy of Nature	
	Extended role of Philosophy in Traditional Medicines (TMs): Philosophic Perspective of TMs, Philosophic Principles of TMs and the relation of Clinical Parameters, Practice and Effects of TMs, to their Philosophic Principle	Lings: The Eleventh Hour
	Philosophy of Art	Nasr: Isl Art Sp: pp.3-16, 195-202 Coomar: Fig Sp: pp.9-103 Coomar: Christ Orient: pp.7-16

## **Bibliography**

### **Key to Abbreviations**

- 1.Nasr, Isl Mod World: SH Nasr, Islam in the Modern World.
- 2.Nasr, Isl Phil: SH Nasr, Islamic Philosophy from its Origin to the Present.
- 3.Nasr, YMGMW: SH Nasr, A young Muslim's guide to the modern world.
- 4.Nasr, Rel Nat: SH Nasr Religion and the Order of Nature
- 5.Schuon, Dim Isl: F Schuon, Dimensions of Islam
- 6.Guenon, Mult St: R Guenon, The Multiple States of Being
- 7.Martin Lings: The Eleventh Hour
- 8.Nasr Isl Art: SH Nasr, Islamic Art and Spirituality
9. Coomar: Christ Orient: AK Coomaraswamy, Philosophy of Christian and Oriental Art.
- 10.Coomnar: Fig Sp: AK Coomaraswamy, Figures of Speech or Figures of Thought.
- 11.Smith: Quantum Enigma: W Smith, The Quantum Enigma