

THE SEVENTH INTEGRATED EAST-WEST FORUM The Science of Consciousness Conference

TSC 2018

APRIL 2, 2018, TUCSON, ARIZONA, USA

*"Oh, East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,
Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great Judgment Seat;
But there is neither East nor West, Border, Nor Breed, nor Birth,
When two strong men stand face to face, though they come from the ends of the earth!"*

—Rudyard Kipling (1889) : The Ballad of East and West



The Integrated East-West Forum is now a familiar feature at the TSC series of conferences, starting with TSC 2012 at Tucson, TSC 2013 at DEI, Dayalbagh, India, TSC 2014 at Tucson, TSC 2015 at Helsinki, Finland, the landmark TSC 2016 at Tucson at the first conference of the series rechristened as 'The Science of Consciousness' and TSC 2017 at San Diego, USA. The Seventh Integrated East-West Forum at TSC 2018 will be yet another landmark integration effort as part of the TSC-series. The above quote rather prophetically captures these momentous events, when not just two strong men from East and West stand face to face, but in fact, two galaxies of strong men from East and West meet at Tucson (USA) and Dayalbagh, Agra (India) also through video-conferencing.

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Forum Coordinator and Organizer – Video-conferencing : Mr. Prem Prashant, Member, Divinity Forum (Dayalbagh/@DEI-location)

Forum Organizer : Prof. Vishal Sahni, Dayalbagh Educational Institute (Deemed Univ.), India

WEBSITE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS FOR THE EAST-WEST FORUM

<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=tsc2018>

Contact email :

tsc2018ewforum@gmail.com

Last Date for Submission of Abstracts :

November 30, 2017

Discounted Registration Fee for DEI, India group :

to be conveyed by Tucson organizers
(Special Discounted Fee for attending both
Integrated East-West Forum and TSC event)
(to be submitted to TSC 2018 organizers at
Tucson – for further details, refer to
<http://consciousness.arizona.edu>)

Receipt, Acceptance Letter and Visa Facilitation Letter will be provided by Tucson organizers

Sponsors :

Centre for Consciousness Studies, Dayalbagh
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DEI, DAYALBAGH AND THE EAST-WEST FORUM AT TSC SERIES

The tradition in the TSC series of conferences has been to hold meetings in alternate years at Tucson and every other year elsewhere in the world. The conference has been aptly renamed as 'The Science of Consciousness' from TSC 2016 onwards in tune with the growing acceptance of consciousness studies among the scientific community all over the world.

A meaningful East-West dialogue seems feasible as has been increasingly evident from TSC-2012 through TSC-2017. To meet these challenges, the landmark Seventh Integrated East-West Forum at TSC-2018 is intended to be a place where one presents key ideas from both approaches, and where these ideas can interact in the spirit of constructive mutual criticism, evaluation and enrichment. It appears plausible to evolve a science of inner experience (which is repeatable and verifiable) by attempting to integrate Eastern and Western scientific approaches and philosophy by verifying inner spiritual phenomenology of consciousness through well-established scientific epistemology, including three important stages of observation (awareness), report (description) and analysis (understanding) (Price and Barrell, 2012) while also availing of modern techniques of fMRI and MEG scans in capturing repeatable physiological / physical parameters of neural correlates accompanying inner spiritual experience during meditational practices. Invoking higher and higher level of unified quantum field theory, with correspondingly subtler and subtler particle size of fine grained geometry will lead to a significant jump in the level of fineness (fine-grained quantum geometry) which should enable us to access, at least in the abstract world of mathematics and physics, the primary ultimate source of consciousness in the whole Universe.



TSC 2013 at DEI, Dayalbagh, India

We need to resolve the inextricably linked problems of subtlest particles smaller than 10^{-35} metres Planck's length and large distances more than 10^{10} light years, and approach zero and infinity by application of logic and induction in the right way.

Dayalbagh and DEI are closely associated with Radhasoami philosophy, which centers upon a type of meditation practice arising from the spiritual philosophy of Eastern Saints known as "*Surat Shabda Yoga*". *Shabda* is referring to a spiritual current which can be perceived in meditation as inner light and particularly unstruck rhythmic sound. *Yoga* is referring to the uniting of our real essence (*soul*) through an inner listening with focused mental and spiritual concentration (*surat*) upon an innersound (*Shabda*) which, it is maintained, emanates from *Radhasoami* the Supreme Being representing the macrocosm i.e. unity. It is therefore taught as the unchanging and primordial technique for uniting the soul with the Supreme Being via the sound-current of *Shabda* in order to experience oneness with macrocosmic consciousness at multiple levels. India is in many ways still a spiritual society and the Radhasoami philosophy (based on 'Saar Bachan') has a consistency with other

extant spiritual meditational practices of the world (to name a few, Buddhism (Buddhavaçana), Jainism (Agamas), Christianity (Bible), Islam (Koran), Sufism (e.g. the Masnavi of Maulana Rumi), Sikhism (Guru Granth Sahab) and Hinduism (as represented by Vedas, Upanishads and Gita). In contrast, much of Western scientific and philosophical study of consciousness takes place in a secularized setting. There was consensus among eastern philosophers and western scientists at the TSC 2016 Panel Discussion that, on one side, for internal experiences or human experience, a protocol has to be necessarily followed. Following that protocol is very difficult for western nations as they will have to leave alcohol and non-vegetarian food. So consensus emerged on studying environment around those who perform *yoga*, *mahayoga* or *Surat Shabda Yoga* and we pin our hope on Corporate Social Responsibility as a measure, that those who perform *Surat Shabda Yoga* have greater sense of Corporate Social Responsibility. The author of one of the latest books, 'Our Mathematical Universe' (Prof. Max Tegmark, MIT) is like us, is in the quest for the ultimate nature of reality. We are trying to explore ultimate nature of reality from two ends, from the ends of science as well as inner or human experience. Therefore, we believe our approach to the problem of consciousness is more complete since we do not only view it from physical science perspective. Moreover, we combine conceptual insights with practical applications which lead to real practical experience of what this inner reality is, and what the human experience is like. Hence, this is where we believe we can offer profound insights in terms of growing ultimate human consciousness.



DEI Group at TSC 2016, Tucson



Sir Roger Penrose at DEI (2013)