

Speakers Biodata

Speaker 1

Sri K. Vasudeva Rao, IIT Kanpur (Alumnus) & President, Bhaktivedanta Institute.

Vasudeva Rao (also known as His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Vrajapati Swami) is an alumnus of the prestigious IIT Kanpur (Computer Science, 1998), and is currently the President of the Bhaktivedanta Institute. He is one of the major contributors to Bhaktivedanta Institute's publications, and also the Editor of Bhaktivedanta Institute's reputed annual journal, *Savijnanam – Scientific Exploration for a Spiritual Paradigm*. He travels widely across India and abroad creating awareness regarding the interface of Science and Spirituality among academic and professional circles. His deep interest in the foundations of mathematics, the fundamentals of computer science and logic, and its relation to the nature of consciousness, nature of reality as well as ancient Indian texts has led him to meet and interact with renowned scholars at Harvard, Princeton, Stanford and MIT. He has delivered numerous talks on computer science and spirituality. Under his able guidance and supervision, more than 10 national conferences, 2 International conferences, and over 100 seminars and workshops on science and spirituality have been organized by the Institute in the past decade, which includes contributions from more than 20 Nobel Laureates and world-renowned scholars; in addition, over 200 papers have been published by the Bhaktivedanta Institute. He was a former Global Council Trustee of the United Religions Initiative.



Speaker 2

Sri Varun Agarwal, IIT Kanpur (Alumnus) & Director, Bhaktivedanta Institute.

Varun Agarwal (also known as His Holiness Bhaktisvarupa Vrajendra Kumar Swami) is an alumnus of IIT Kanpur (Aerospace Engg - 1999) and is currently the Director of the Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata. He was a recipient of IIT Kanpur Director's Gold Medal in 1999 for his excellent undergraduate academic record. His research interests include the foundations of science and its possible connections with spirituality. His search for a deeper meaning of life culminated in meeting and taking personal guidance from Dr. T. D. Singh, which completely changed his life, after which he dedicated himself to the cause of selflessly helping humanity. He is the Editor of many publications on science and spirituality, including Bhaktivedanta Institute's reputed annual science-spirituality journal, *Savijnanam – Scientific Exploration for a Spiritual Paradigm*. His deep interest in the foundations of mathematics and the nature of consciousness and its relation to the nature of reality as well as ancient Indian texts has led him to interact and meet with renowned scholars at Harvard, Princeton, ETH, Stanford and MIT. He has given numerous talks worldwide on the foundations of science, as well as the foundations of life, mathematics and spirituality.

