

*Polba Mahavidyalaya*

*One Day Seminar*

**SPEAKER: PIYALI DAS**

**TOPIC: EXPLORING THE CONCEPT OF DHARMA : A  
STUDY IN INDIAN PHILOSOPHY**

**Organised by**

**Department of Philosophy & I.Q.A.C**

**Polba Mahavidyalaya**

**Polba, Hooghly, W.B.**

**PIN-712148**

To  
The Teacher in Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba, Hooghly  
Pin- 712148

Sub: Seeking permission to organize a one-day state level Seminar on Exploring the concept of Dharma: a study in Indian Philosophy

Respected Sir,

With due respect, I, on behalf of Philosophy Department in collaboration with IQAC, Polba Mahavidyalaya would like to request your kind permission to organize a one-day state level Seminar on "Exploring the concept of Dharma: a study in Indian Philosophy" in the college premises. The proposed date of the said seminar is tentatively 10/12/22. The date would be finalized according to the convenience of the Resource Person.

Proposed Resource Person: Piyali Das

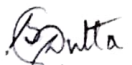
Proposed Budget

o Resource Person Honorarium:

Rs. 1000/-

Hope you would be kind enough to provide your administrative and financial permission for the forthcoming Seminar.

Thanks and Regards,

 01.12.22  
Dr. Sharmistha Dutta (Dutta)

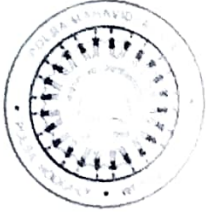
Head of the Department of Philosophy

Polba Mahavidyalaya

Approved.  
@kandot

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# POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

Post Office - Polba, District – Hooghly, West Bengal, Pin - 712148

AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN  
Recognized under Sections 2(f) & 12(B) of the UGC Act. 1956  
NAAC Accredited

Ref. No.

Date: 01.12.2022

## Notice

All the Teaching and Non-Teaching Staffs along with the Students of Philosophy of Polba Mahavidyalaya are hereby informed that department of philosophy in collaboration with IQAC is going to organize a state level seminar on "Exploring the concept of Dharma: a study in Indian Philosophy" on 10/12/22

Head of the Department  
Philosophy

01/12/22

Teacher-in-Charge

Teacher in Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba, Hooghly, West Bengal



**POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA**  
(AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN)  
Polba Hooghly Pin 712148

To  
Smt. Piyali Das  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Philosophy  
Kishi Bamkim Chandra Evening College

**Sub: Invitation to deliver a speech as a Resource Person in One- Day State Level Seminar on "Exploring the concept of Dharma: A study in Indian Philosophy"**  
We feel happy to announce that the Department of Philosophy in collaboration with IQAC, Polba Mahavidyalaya is going to organize One- Day State Level Seminar on "**Exploring the concept of Dharma: A study in Indian Philosophy**" on 10/12 / 2022 at the college premises.

On this occasion, on behalf our Institute, I cordially invite you to deliver one- hour lecture from 12.30 pm as a very distinguished Resource Person

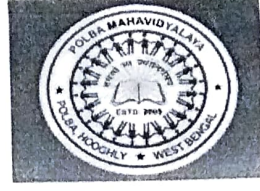
Intimation from your end in confirmation would be highly appreciated

Thanking you.

With Regards, *N. Kaibarta*  
02/12/2022

Mr. Narugopal kaibarta  
Teacher-in-Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba , Hooghly  
Pin 712148

*N. Kaibarta*



**POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA**  
**(AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN)**

Polba, Hooghly, Pin-712148

To  
Smt. Piyali Das  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Philosophy  
Rishi Bamkim Chandra Evening College

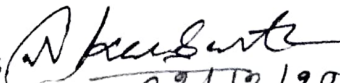
**Sub: Invitation to deliver a speech as a Resource Person in One- Day State Level Seminar on "Exploring the concept of Dharma: A study in Indian Philosophy"**

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Thanking you,

With Regards,   
02/12/2022  
Teacher in Charge

Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Mr. Narugopal kaibarta  
Teacher-in-Charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba , Hooghly  
Pin- 712148



Received  
B.S.

# Programme of the Seminar

One-day State level Seminar

on

"Exploring the concept of Dharma: a study in Indian Philosophy" on 10/12/22.

Organized by

Department of PHILOSOPHY & I.Q.A.C.

POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

:Venue:

Polba Mahavidyalaya (Room No. 202), Polba, Hooghly, W.B.-712148.

- Registration: 12.00noon – 12.30pm
- Inaugural Session: 12.30 pm – 12.45 pm

Objectives of the Seminar: Dr. Sharmistha Gupta Dutta H.O.D. Department of Philosophy, Polba Mahavidyalaya 12.45-1:00pm

Lighting of Lamp by the respected Teacher in Charge in the presence of the resource person and other.

Felicitations of Hon'ble T.I.C. Polba Mahavidyalaya, Distinguished Resource Person & by the Students

Inaugural Speech by Hon'ble T.I.C., Polba Mahavidyalaya,  
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm

Introduction of the Speaker: Dr. Pratima Dhali, Assistant Professor Dept. of Philosophy, Polba Mahavidyalaya.

Discussion 1:15 pm -2.15pm

Speech exploring the concept of Dharma: a study in Indian Philosophy"  
by Piyali Das

2:15 -2:30 pm

Vote of thanks is given by Dr. Sharmistha Gupta (Dutta)  
The Seminar concludes.

  
20.12.22

The objective of a seminar on exploring the concept of dharma in Indian philosophy would be to:

- **Understand Dharma:** Define and understand the multifaceted concept of dharma, including its historical, religious, ethical, and philosophical dimensions.
- **Historical Context:** Examine the origins and evolution of dharma in various Indian texts such as the Vedas, Upanishads, Mahabharata, Ramayana, and the Dharmashastras.
- **Philosophical Perspectives:** Analyze the interpretations and applications of dharma in different schools of Indian philosophy, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism.
- **Ethical Implications:** Discuss the role of dharma in shaping ethical behavior and moral decision-making in Indian society.
- **Comparative Analysis:** Compare the concept of dharma with similar ethical and moral concepts in other philosophical traditions.
- **Contemporary Relevance:** Explore the relevance and application of dharma in contemporary life and global ethical discourse.
- **Interactive Discussions:** Encourage interactive discussions and debates to gain diverse perspectives on the concept of dharma.
- **Scholarly Contributions:** Present and critique scholarly contributions and interpretations related to dharma.

By achieving these objectives, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of dharma and its significance in Indian philosophy and beyond.

Progress Report: Seminar on the Dharma in Indian Philosophy  
Date: [10/12/22]

Presented by: Piyali Das]

Seminar Topic: exploring the concept of Dharma: A study in Indian Philosophy

### Introduction

The seminar topic focuses on understanding the concept of Dharma in Indian philosophy. Dharma is a complex and multifaceted concept, often translated as "duty," "law," "ethics," or "righteousness," and is central to various Indian philosophical traditions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Mapped the development of the concept of Dharma from early Vedic literature to classical texts such as the Manusmriti and Arthashastra. Examined the influence of Dharma on the social and legal structures of ancient India.

### Comparative Analysis

Identified key differences and similarities in the interpretation of Dharma in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism.

Analyzed the role of Dharma in shaping ethical and moral frameworks in these traditions.

**Practical Implications** Conducted case studies on how Dharma influences contemporary Indian society and individual behavior. Investigated the relevance of Dharma in addressing modern ethical dilemmas.

In Hinduism, Dharma is multifaceted, encompassing duties, rights, laws, conduct, virtues, and the right way of living.

In Buddhism, Dharma (Dharma) refers to the teachings of the Buddha and the cosmic law and order.

In Jainism, Dharma is primarily understood as the moral virtues and ethical duties leading to liberation.

### Evolution of Dharma

Dharma has evolved from a focus on ritualistic duties in the Vedic period to more complex ethical and legal duties in later periods.

The concept has been interpreted and reinterpreted to adapt to changing social and historical contexts.

### Comparative Insights

Hinduism emphasizes the social and personal duties (svadharma) based on one's caste and stage of life.

Buddhism focuses on universal ethical principles and the path to enlightenment.

Jainism stresses non-violence (ahimsa) and truth (satya) as fundamental aspects of Dharma.

### Modern Relevance

Dharma continues to influence contemporary Indian legal, social, and ethical systems.

*Piyali Das*

20.12.22



The concept provides a framework for addressing modern issues such as social justice, environmental ethics, and personal integrity.

Next Steps

Further Research

Deepen the analysis of Dharma in lesser-studied texts and traditions.  
Explore interdisciplinary approaches, incorporating insights from sociology, anthropology, and modern ethics.

Seminar Presentation

Prepare a detailed presentation outlining the key findings.  
Develop visual aids and handouts to facilitate understanding.  
Discussion and Feedback

Organize a discussion session to engage with peers and experts.  
Incorporate feedback and refine the final seminar presentation.

Conclusion

Significant progress has been made in exploring the concept of Dharma in Indian philosophy. The ongoing research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of this central concept and its implications for both historical and contemporary contexts

*Banta*  
2012.22

## **\*\*The Concept of Dharma in Indian Philosophy\*\***

Dharma, a term deeply rooted in Indian philosophy, is a cornerstone of Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, and Sikh traditions. Its multifaceted nature reflects the complexity and depth of Indian thought, encompassing both moral and cosmic principles. To understand the concept of dharma, it is crucial to explore its various dimensions and implications across these traditions.

### **\*\*1. The Meaning and Dimensions of Dharma\*\***

At its core, dharma is often translated as "duty," "law," or "righteousness," but its meaning extends far beyond these terms. In Hindu philosophy, dharma refers to the ethical and moral duties that each individual must follow according to their position in life. It is linked to the concept of "svadharma" (one's own duty), which varies based on one's age, caste, gender, and stage of life. For instance, the dharma of a student differs from that of a householder or a sage. This variability underscores the importance of context and personal responsibility in adhering to dharma.

In the context of Buddhism, dharma (or "dhamma" in Pali) signifies the teachings of the Buddha, which guide individuals towards enlightenment and liberation from suffering. The Noble Eightfold Path, a fundamental aspect of Buddhist dharma, outlines the ethical and mental practices necessary to attain Nirvana. Here, dharma represents a path to transcend the cycle of rebirth and achieve ultimate freedom.

Jainism also embraces dharma, but with a unique emphasis on non-violence (ahimsa) and asceticism. Jain dharma involves strict adherence to non-violence, truthfulness, and renunciation, aiming to liberate the soul from the cycle of karma and rebirth. For Jains, living in accordance with dharma is crucial for spiritual progress and liberation.

Sikhism, another major Indian tradition, views dharma as living in accordance with God's will and the principles set forth in the Guru Granth Sahib. Sikh dharma emphasizes justice, equality, and devotion, guiding followers to live righteous lives while serving humanity and remaining devoted to God.

### **\*\*2. The Role of Dharma in Indian Society\*\***

G. Datta

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Dharma is not merely a philosophical abstraction; it plays a significant role in shaping social norms and practices. In traditional Indian society, dharma provided a framework for social order, guiding individuals' roles and responsibilities. The concept influenced various aspects of life, including law, family relationships, and social duties.

In ancient texts like the Manusmriti and the Mahabharata, dharma is depicted as a guiding principle for personal and communal conduct. The Bhagavad Gita, a seminal text in Hindu philosophy, illustrates the complexity of dharma through the character of Arjuna, who faces a moral dilemma on the battlefield. Krishna's teachings emphasize that adhering to one's dharma, even in the face of personal conflict, is essential for achieving harmony and fulfilling one's purpose.

### **\*\*3. \*\*Contemporary Relevance\*\***

In modern times, the concept of dharma continues to resonate with individuals seeking a moral compass and a sense of purpose. While traditional interpretations of dharma may evolve, its essence remains relevant in addressing ethical dilemmas and personal responsibilities. The idea of dharma encourages individuals to act with integrity, compassion, and respect for others, contributing to personal growth and societal well-being.

Moreover, the concept of dharma has gained broader significance in the context of global challenges such as environmental sustainability and social justice. As individuals and communities confront complex issues, the principles of dharma—duty, righteousness, and compassion—provide valuable guidance for ethical decision-making and collective action.

### **\*\*Conclusion\*\***

The concept of dharma in Indian philosophy offers a profound and multifaceted understanding of duty, righteousness, and moral conduct. Its application across Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism highlights its versatility and enduring relevance. By exploring the dimensions of dharma, we gain insights into how ancient wisdom continues to inform contemporary ethical and philosophical discussions, guiding individuals and societies towards a more harmonious and just existence.

*B. Datta*  
20.12.22



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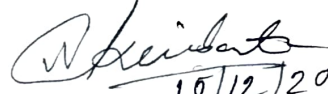
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Date: **10-12-2022**

## To whom it may concern

This is to state that Piyali Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Rishi Bankim Chandra Evening College, delivered a seminar lecture titled "*Exploring the concept of Dharma: a study in Indian Philosophy*" as a distinguished resource person at Polba Mahavidyalaya on 10-12-2022.

We appreciate her adept articulation and profound knowledge which not only enriched the young minds of those present but also left a profound and lasting impression. We are grateful for her painstaking efforts in enhancing the standard of education at our institution.


  
10/12/2022

Teacher-in-charge  
Polba Mahavidyalaya,  
Polba, Hooghly-712148

*Teacher in Charge*  
Polba Mahavidyalaya  
Polba, Hooghly, West Bengal



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