



Chinmaya Mission Boston

# National Workshop

## Spirituality & Religion The Case of Mistaken Identity

Do you avoid speaking about your religious practices?

What inhibits you from publicly embracing your faith and religion?

Do you view religion and spirituality to be different?

**Join the first discussion of its kind on  
spirituality and religion**

**Keynote | Moderated Discussions | Q&A**

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Swami Ishwarananda

Head Monk

Chinmaya Mission Los Angeles



Dr. Udit Batra

CEO

Waters Corporation



Dr. Abhaya Asthana

Chairman

World Hindu Council of America



**Saturday, June 12th 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM EDT**

**FREE AND OPEN TO ALL!**

For Registration and Details visit our website or scan the QR code

<https://chinmaya-boston.org/spirituality-and-religion-workshop>





**Mr. Udit Batra (Keynote)**  
**President and CEO**  
 Waters Corporation

Mr. Batra is a *philosopher businessman* and has more than two decades of leadership and operational expertise in the healthcare and life sciences industry, including a proven track record of driving results at the top of the industry and successfully managing a global organization. Born in New Delhi, India, Mr. Batra is an accomplished executive who has dedicated his career to improving health for people globally.



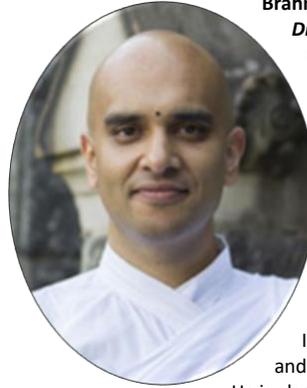
**Brahmacharini Shuchita (Moderator)**  
**Resident spiritual guide**  
 Chinmaya Mission Austin

Brni. Shuchita graduated from Austin College with a degree in Spanish & Biology. She has completed a Master of Public Health from University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston and worked in research and teaching fields. Brni. Shuchita has organized and conducted camps and retreats for various age groups across college, professional and mission organizations. She enjoys listening to music, walking, and discussing the application and understanding of Vedanta in our daily lives.



**Swami Ishwarananda (Keynote)**  
**Resident senior monk**  
 Chinmaya Mission Los Angeles

An accomplished master of Vedanta philosophy, Swamiji explains the universality of spiritual teachings in a simplified manner for audiences to grasp and for seekers to implement teachings in day-to-day living. Swamiji is presently one of the Directors of Chinmaya Mission West (CMW) which oversees the activities in North America. Swamiji is a dynamic speaker; has given talks on Vedanta, stress management, management techniques, and other related fields; has also authored many books.



**Brahmachari Vrajivhari Sharan (Moderator)**  
**Director for Hindu Life & Adjunct Professor**  
 Georgetown University

Dr. Sharan moved to Washington DC from London, UK to serve as the first full-time Director for Hindu Life in Campus Ministry at Georgetown University in 2016, making him the first Hindu Monk to serve at a Catholic Institution. Br. Sharan is an Adjunct Professor at the Department of Theology and Linguistics. His academic training is in Indology, Sanskrit Philology, Classical Indian Intellectual Systems, Indian Religious Traditions and Society, Medieval Braj Literature, and Vedānta. He is also an instructor of Hindu Priests and holds the title of 'Yagyacharya' (Master in [Hindu] Rituals).



**Dr. Abhaya Asthana (Keynote)**  
**Fellow and CTO**  
 Nokia Bell Labs

As the CTO, Dr. Asthana directs research in cognitive, self-reliable networks of the future – networks that continuously learn on their own and heal themselves. Earlier, he led the design of VLSI processors at INTEL. He got his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from I.I.T Kanpur, where he went back to teach from 1983-1985. Outside of science and technology, Dr. Asthana's passion is to learn about Hindu Dharma and history, practice it and pass it on to the children. His mission is to help Hindus living in America remain Hindus, and through their lives contribute to the richness of their adopted land. He is the Chairman of World Hindu Council of America (VHPA).



**Brahmachari Hari Chaitanya (Moderator)**  
**Resident spiritual guide**  
 Chinmaya Mission DFW

Born and raised in Dallas, Texas, Brahmachari Hari Chaitanya has been associated with CMDFW since he was a Kindergarten. After graduating from high school, he attended the University of Texas at Dallas and was an active member of Chinmaya Yuva Kendra (CHYK) Dallas. Br. Hari Chaitanya served on the CHYK West Steering Committee, where he coordinated Junior CHYK initiatives. As a CHYK, he taught Balavihar classes for six years. Upon completion of the 17th Residential Vedanta Course at Sandeepany Sadhanalaya in Mumbai Br. Hari. Chaitanya was posted to serve at CMDFW.



**Shri. Vivek Gupta (Moderator)**  
**Resident Teacher**  
 Chinmaya Mission Niagara  
 Deputy Dir., Chinmaya Yuva Kendra West

With a speaking style of insight and inspiration, Shri. Vivek makes philosophy relevant and reachable to people across cultures and generations. He uniquely weaves the sacred into the secular, revealing that a life of independent joy is possible. Shri. Vivek's unifying and universal vision has led him to communities and organizations all around the world, including The Pentagon, Amazon, Cognizant, Des Moines University, Parkwood Institute and more.



**Shri. T. R. Raghunath (Moderator)**  
**Owner, Thin Film Research**  
 Westford, MA

Shri. Raghunath is one of the Adult Satsang moderators and is actively involved in the day-to-day activities of Chinmaya Mission Boston. His favorite quote is "*Religion is not as such in the Maala (rosary) or in the mantra or in the scripture or in the devaalaya. It is in the refreshing attitude of the "mind in surrender" ...sincerely living in tune with Higher in you, the greater and the enobler in you"* - Swami Chinmayananda.