



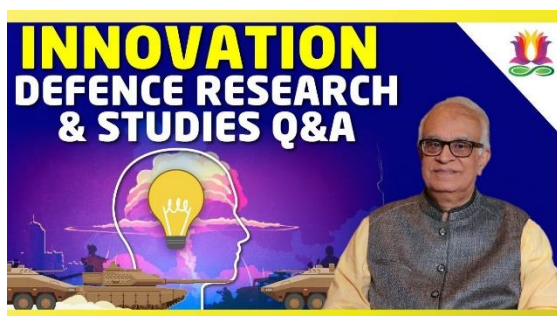
JULY 2021

The back to back launch of two game changing books “[Sanskrit Non-Translatables](#)” and “[Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power](#)” at the turn of the year 2021 cemented Infinity Foundation’s leadership position in the arena of civilization studies from an Indian perspective. Both the books continue to enjoy massive success and have spawned movements of their own. In July 2021, we therefore continue our focus on in-depth discussions and analyses on these two topics.

Discussion with Defence Research & Studies (DRaS)

In this discussion between cyber security expert Group Captain Pola Aanand Naidu (Retired Indian Air Force) of DRaS and Rajiv Malhotra, a lot of important national security issues are discussed in the context of Rajiv’s book Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power.

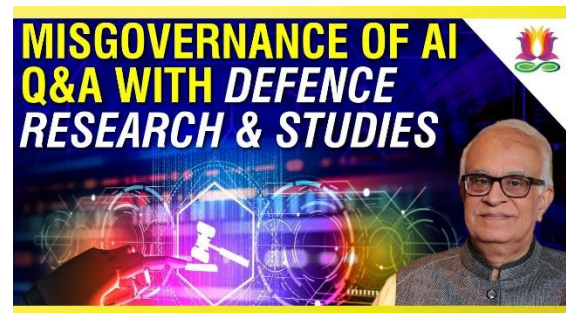
Q&A 2: Innovation



Rajiv Malhotra and Captain Pola Aanand discuss the fact that although India produces numerically large numbers of

STEM graduates, very few actually do innovative work. Most have jobs unrelated to their education. China has the world’s largest number of practicing technocrats. India’s education policy will make things worse by diluting the engineering disciplines into humanities with imported social theories. [Video](#).

Q&A 3: Mis-governance of AI



Rajiv and Captain Pola Aanand discuss the potential drawbacks of depending on an advisory body like NITI Aayog to spearhead India’s artificial intelligence efforts.

On the one hand they lacking visionary thinking needed to put AI in India at a national scale. At the same time they rely on foreign AI powers like Google and research firms like McKinsey. The interests of these foreign corporations are not necessarily aligned with India’s national interests. Rajiv stresses the urgent need to create a National Commission on AI. [Video](#).

Q&A 4: Research Leadership

Rajiv and Captain Pola Aanand discuss the reasons for the AI success in China and the U.S., the two leaders in the space. One of



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the reasons is the established military-industrial-academic collaborations which has delivered massive benefits.



India in contrast has next-to-no involvement of the government and a corporate sector that is highly focused on short-term profits rather than long-term research. India needs a big boost in vision to get on to the world stage. [Video](#).

Q&A 5: Military Implications Defence Research & Studies



In this videos Rajiv and Captain Pola Aanand discuss how the Indian military is negatively impacted by the huge manpower it needs to support. After spending on this and on expensive imported weapons, very little remains for R&D.

Corporate India is not aligned with India's long-term national interests and focuses instead on short term gains by selling Indian talent to foreign clients. This has led to proliferation of billionaire tycoons

seeking personal glory rather than increasing R&D to maintain India's software lead. [Video](#).

Discussion with Dr. Satyanarayana Dasa Babaji on Sanskrit Non-Translatables

Dhyana ≠ Meditation



In this video, Dr. Satyanarayana Dasa Babaji and Rajiv Malhotra discuss the non-translatable nature of yogic terms such as 'dhyana'.

There are eight steps in a yoga sadhana according to ashtanga yoga of Patanjali, and the word meditation is sometimes indiscriminately used to denote any of the later steps like pranayama, dhyana, samadhi etc.

Thus, all these highly technical Sanskrit yogic terms are made to coalesce into one English word 'meditation'. This leads to a gross misunderstanding of these terms by a person unacquainted with yoga. [Video](#).

Samadhi ≠ Trance

In this video Babaji and Rajiv discuss the distinctions between the terms 'samadhi' and 'trance'. Samadhi is often used interchangeably with trance, although they are diametrically opposite in meaning.

Trance for example is induced by drugs, intoxication or hypnotism such that one



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loses some of his faculties. As a result, he may be confused/bewildered and not in control over himself.



Samadhi on the other hand is a condition of hyper-awareness that imparts a person with additional faculties to see and perceive things not seen or perceived by others. In samadhi, the unmoving focus on the object of dharana leads one to higher states of consciousness. [Video](#).

Discussion with Vrinda Acharya on Non-translatables in Indian Music

Kala ≠ Speed



In this video, Vrinda Acharya explains and demonstrates the concept of Kala and also clarifies why it is not a good idea to call it Speed.

'Kala', which means time in the generic sense, has a specific conceptual significance with respect to music. It is the arrangement of aksharas within specific talas at a specific progression, which is not akin to the speed of playing a piece of

music. The entire tradition behind it gets lost, if Kala is translated as 'Speed'. [Video](#).

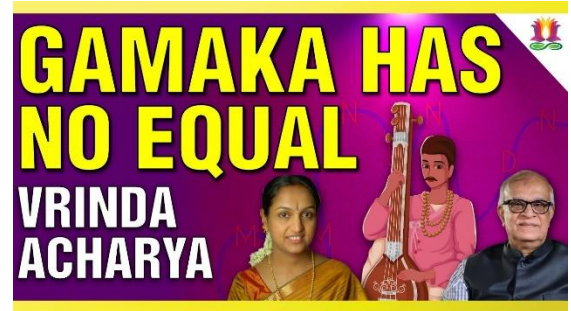
Mela has no Equivalent



In this episode on the Non-translatables of Carnatic Music, Vrinda Acharya explains why the concept of Mela, which fails to find a parallel in any non-Indian musical system, is a non-translatable.

Mela is an original innovation of the South Indian Classical Music tradition. It is a very scientific and systematic categorization of musical scales which forms the basis for the sophisticated Raga system. [Video](#).

Gamaka has no Equal



In this video, Vrinda Acharya brings out the unique feature of gamakas in Carnatic music, explaining how it is integral to the raga system and how it is conceptually distinct from an apparently similar concept used in Hindustani music and deeper than the legato, staccato and vibrato concepts of variations in Western Music. [Video](#).



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Podcasts on Kurukshetra Channel

Artificial Intelligence

- [Q&A 2: Innovation](#)
- [Q&A 3: Mis-governance of AI](#)
- [Q&A 4: Research Leadership](#)
- [Q&A 5: Military Implications](#)

Sanskrit Non-Translatables

- [Dhyana ≠ Meditation](#)
- [Samadhi ≠ Trance](#)

SNT of (South) Indian Music

- [Gamaka has no =](#)
- [Kala ≠ Speed](#)
- [Mela has no =](#)

IFI High School Internship Program 2021

Infinity Foundation India recently concluded its maiden High School Internship program. A total of 14 students, including one international student participated in the program.

The topic of the program was an introduction to the book “Artificial Intelligence and the Future of the Power.”

During the course of the one month long program, the students of grades 9 through 12 studied the book, and worked on a number of projects to demonstrate their understanding of the topic on how AI impacts different aspects of humanity.

The student participation was heartening and the Q&A sessions were extremely engaging. At the end of the program, IFI evaluated their performances and awarded the five top students.

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