With the launch, in November 2020, of the book "Sanskrit Non-Translatables" by Rajiv Malhotra and Satyanarayana Dasa Babaji, followed by the January 2021 launch of the game-changing book "Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power", Infinity Foundation has further consolidated its leadership position in the area of the civilization studies from an Indian perspective.

Given the continued success of both the books, and the demand for more original research and insights, we continue our focus on highly engaging discussions and analyses on AI and SNT in the month of June 2021.

Discussion between Rajiv Malhotra and Indian Army Training Command

Part 1
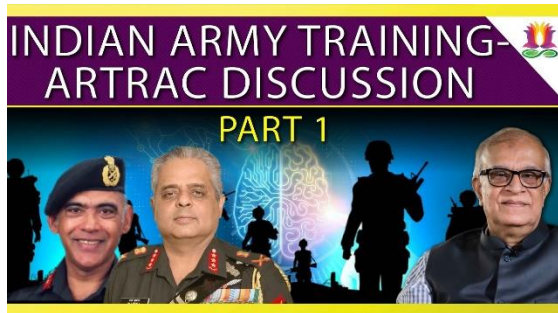
In this first of a two-part virtual discussion with Indian Army Training Command (ARTRAC), Rajiv Malhotra engages virtually with nearly 3,000 Indian Army officers from more than 26 stations, to discuss important insights from his recent book Artificial Intelligence and the Future of

Power. Lt. Gen Raj Shukla outlines ARTRAC's vision and aims in understanding modern and emerging technologies and their particular relevance to the security and geo-political elements and sets the context for how important Rajiv's book is for discussion around these matters. They discuss geo-strategic trajectories of India and China over the past few decades that culminated in their respective AI competencies.

They touch upon US-China competition and on China-Pakistan alliance and how India is not doing adequate purva-paksa on many of these strategic issues. They also discuss other important points, including the difference in Chinese and Indian approaches to their civilizations - while China retained their historical thought structures and combined it with modern elements, India embraced second-hand western constructs alien to its grain. They also talk about the importance of kshatriyata in nation building. Video.

Part 2

Continuing the virtual discussion with the Indian Army Training Command (ARTRAC), Rajiv Malhotra answers questions from a number of attendees, giving important insights from his recent book Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power.

Maj Gen BS Dhanoa outlines issues the Indian Army faces in joining the big league in AI. Recent funding and efforts to that

end that are admittedly, baby steps, also come to light. There is some discussion about co-ordination between industry, academy and military, as well as the use of emerging technologies like AI for geo-strategic advantage.

Rajiv also talks about national security threats emerging out of foreign-branded social media that not only have embedded biases but also loyalties with non-Indian interests. He says that the armed forces need to take a two-pronged approach to the problem, one involving internal assessment of AI needs and the other, assessment of the technology available in the market externally to make the best of the current situation. Video.

Q&A 1: Devatas & Moronization | Defence Research & Studies

In this video, Rajiv Malhotra answers a question about the use of some strong words in his book, Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power. He explains how today, we are forced to fall in line with requirements of foreign search engines, social media and the like, which have their own embedded biases and ideologies. Since India doesn't have competing technologies, we are increasingly surrendering our sovereignty to these technological platforms that are rapidly replacing India's own sources.

These platforms have assumed the position of devatas creating rules that we must comply with. The resultant increase in our intellectual and emotional dependency is leading to moronization of the masses. Video.

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

Prana ≠ Breath

In this video Babaji and Rajiv Malhotra explore the concept of 'prana', contrasting it with the pure physicality of 'breath'. Breath signifies the air blowing between the mouth and lungs of a living being during respiration.

Prana, however, is not just breath but rather a profound and subtle medium, which is capable of transmitting consciousness from the atma to the entire psycho-physical apparatus of the body, including the breath. In this way it energizes and activates both the mind and the body. Video.
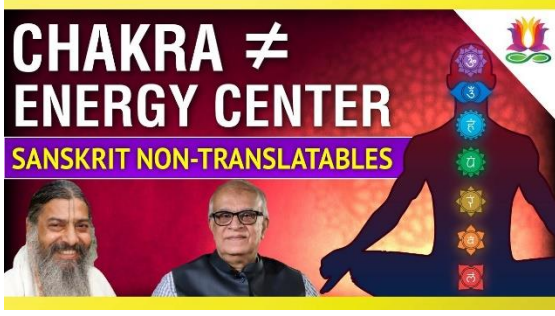
Chakra ≠ Energy Center

In this video Babaji and Rajiv discuss the meaning of the term chakra and its position in the Dharmic framework.

Although the Sanskrit term 'Chakra', used in Tantric yoga or Kundalini yoga, has entered the western lexicon, it is not very well understood by the English-speaking world. It is important to understand that the concept of chakra cannot be studied and experienced when isolated from the Dharmic framework.

Some western teachers and scholars go a step further and even try to connect it with Christianity. All these motivated attempts to assimilate or digest the concept inevitably lead to its misrepresentation which is reflected in the English translation of the word - 'energy center'. Video.

Discussion with Vrinda Acharya on Non-translatables in Indian Music

Svara ≠ Note

Indian music is based on a system of seven svaras called 'Saptaswaras'. Though superficially, these may seem to be the same as the 'notes' of Western Music, there are subtle differences. In this video, Vrinda Acharya talks about why a svara should not be called a note, by analyzing and comparing the technical definitions from the respective systems. Video.

Raga ≠ Melody

Raga is often loosely translated as melody, mode, tune, scale, etc. In this video, Vrinda Acharya explains the unparalleled status of the Indian Raga and its various dimensions.

The concept of Raga is unique to the Indian music tradition that constitutes an important part of India's contribution to world musicology. She illustrates very cogently why the words melody or scale are highly incapable of capturing the essence of Raga by comparing concepts within the Indian and Western musical traditions. Video.

Laya ≠ Rhythm

Indian music is based on concepts of integrated concepts of 'Laya' and 'Tala', whereas Western music goes by 'Rhythm', which is said to oppose melody. In this video, Vrinda Acharya elucidates the fine differences between the concepts by comparing their respective definitions.

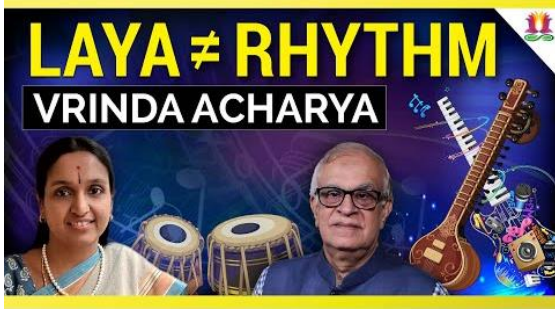She then demonstrates the various facets of Laya in Carnatic music and explains why the word rhythm, being more gross and material is inadequate to represent the highly subtle and abstract concept of 'Laya'. Video.

Articles/ Media Coverage

- India Defence Review - Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power
- Storizen - Sanskrit Non- Translatable, a Call for Correct Discourse
- Storizen - Book Review: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power
- Republic News India - Review of book Artificial Intelligence, and the Future of Power

Podcasts on Kurukshetra Channel

Artificial Intelligence

- Discussion with Indian Army Training Command - Part 1 Part 2
- Q&A 1: Devatas & Moronization | Defence Research & Studies

Sanskrit Non-Translatables

- Chakra ≠ Energy Center
- Prana ≠ Breath

SNT of (South) Indian Music

- Svara ≠ Note
- Raga ≠ Melody
- Laya ≠ Rhythm

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