

# Knowledge Series: India and its Enduring Influence on America and the World.

October  
8, 2020

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*Main  
Takeaway*

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**In America, respected equality is replacing Indian stereotypes in various fields.**

## Introduction

In this Webinar, Dr. Pankaj Jain, Dean of the Vijaybhoomi School of Arts and Humanities at Vijaybhoomi University will be in conversation with Dr. Jeffery Long, Professor of Asian Studies and Indian religions at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania, USA. The topics covered will include India's contributions to the making of America and the world, and status of academic studies of Indian culture in American universities.



The graphic features a dark blue header with the text "Knowledge Series". Below this, the title "India and its Enduring Influence on America and the World" is displayed in a large, bold, black font. Two circular headshots of the speakers are shown side-by-side, separated by a horizontal blue bar. Under each headshot is the speaker's name and title. At the bottom left, the Vijaybhoomi University logo and name are shown, along with the tagline "India's First Liberal Professional University". At the bottom right, a red rounded rectangle contains the date and time: "Thursday, 8th Oct 2020 8 PM".

**Knowledge Series**

## India and its Enduring Influence on America and the World

  
**Dr. Pankaj Jain**  
Dean,  
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**Dr. Jeffery Long**  
Professor,  
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VIJAYBHOOMI  
UNIVERSITY  
India's First Liberal Professional University



**Thursday,  
8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020  
8 PM**

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*Takeaway* **Learnings**

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- The Indian Bhajans and Kirtans have had a tremendous effect in the Western musical sheets. American singer Krishna Das is known to be the ‘Rockstar of Yoga.’
  - Movies such as Star Wars seem to derive its roots from Indian teachings of Spirituality, the Brahma, and Shakti theories. Most science-fictions revolve on Indian references.
  - The depth perceived in the language of Sanskrit is often absent in other languages.
  - Practices of Yoga go beyond postures; there’s a pining want to understand meanings and sense of its origins.
  - Ayurveda is now slowly recognized for its importance. Most western practices flood the human body of chemicals with unknown side-effects.
  - Meditation is an effective way to relieve pain. When the physical body is hurt, the mind is in pain.
  - In middle school education, the main topics covered revolve around the caste system of India. Non-Indian students are unable to grasp the concepts due to inexperience.
  - Theoretical approaches such as deconstruction and critical analogies to the Indian cultures burden the Under-Graduate syllabuses.
  - Dharmic practices of Jainism condemn dairy farming and Hinsa (Cruelty) against animals.
  - Indians led the IT Revolution as they were able to aesthetically understand the needs of users in an easily perceivable way.
  - With diversity being the identity of Indians, products and services from the country are polished.
  - Dharma in America: A Short History of Hindu-Jain Diaspora by Dr. Pankaj Jain, and Hinduism in America: A Convergence of Worlds by Dr. Jeffery Long mirror thoughts on the Indian diaspora.
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## Speakers

### **Dr. Jeffery Long**

Professor- Asian Studies and Indian religions,  
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### **Dr. Pankaj Jain**

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