



The Academy of
Business in Society



**EABIS- The Academy of Business in Society, YALE UNIVERSITY & INDIAN INSTITUTE OF
MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE**

And supported by EFMD

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

(To be followed by a Call for Papers for a Special Issue of the Journal
of Management Development)

“Practical Wisdom from the Indian Religious Traditions”

To be held at

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE KERALA

On JANUARY 12-13, 2012

Part of a [series of conferences on practical wisdom](#) for management from the
world's spiritual and philosophical traditions organised by EABIS and Yale
University

THE ROLE OF PRACTICAL WISDOM IN THE MODERN WORLD

Practical Wisdom rooted in religious and spiritual traditions plays an important role in the context of modern society. In many ways, traditions of practical wisdom still serve as a palimpsest of contemporary cultures. Veiled but nevertheless influential, they inspire education and civic culture, framing decisions even in social and economic organizations that are reluctant or even hostile against explicit religion.

In the context of the globalized markets of the 21st century, the social importance of ‘practical wisdom’ may even increase. As legal institutions based on national legislatures no longer expand their regulatory power, the orientating force of overarching notions of practical wisdom may enable cooperation even in contexts where no common legal rules are available. This holds especially true for business life, in which common sense and professional ethics have always played an important role.

Religious notions of practical wisdom, however, are still an academically unfathomed area. Modern philosophers and ethicists have tried to elaborate normative constructs which should serve as a rational substitute in a post-religious era. However, as the artificial language ‘Esperanto’ could never displace the real historic languages of people, even modern normative concepts like the ones proposed in recent years will never displace the orientating forces that religion and spiritual concepts embody. Bringing these concepts to light again and illustrating them in their regulating influence on business practices in certain cultural and historic contexts is an important challenge for contemporary academic research.

EABIS (The Academy of Business in Society) and Yale University are organizing a series of conferences on practical wisdom for management from the world’s spiritual and philosophical traditions, addressing the central question: *How can we bring back the value of wisdom in management and management education?* The conferences are, on each occasion, followed by a call for papers, a special issue of *The Journal of Management Development* and a book series. They are designed to bring together philosophers, theologians, management scholars and business leaders to engage in reflection and dialogue and to find new grounding.

The first conference took place in September 2009 on the Christian tradition, organized by the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany and St. Thomas University of Minneapolis, USA. A conference on Chinese traditions followed in June 2010, with a journal issue forthcoming in summer 2011. Between now and 2013, conferences on the Buddhist, Chinese, Hindu, Islamic, Jewish, Jain and Shinto traditions will be staged around the world, concluding with a comparative conference at Yale University in 2013.

PRACTICAL WISDOM IN INDIAN RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

As the birthplace of four major spiritual traditions (Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism), India has played a uniquely important role in the evolution of human spirituality. For this conference, we welcome contributions from all periods and strains of Indian religious thought. Contributions should explore the nature and contemporary relevance of the Indian wisdom traditions for management and

management education. Authors are invited to submit original, unpublished research papers with the following topics, but not limited to:

- The Role of Faith-based Wisdom in Business Decision-Making
- The Impact of Religion on Business Decision-Making
- Artha and Globalization
- Business Ethics in Indian Religious Traditions
- Business in Indian Religious Traditions
- Management Practices in Indian Religious Traditions
- Leadership in Indian Religious Traditions
- Economics in Indian Religious Traditions
- Marketing Practices in Indian Religious Traditions
- Investment Practices in Indian Religious Traditions
- Spirituality in the Workplace

STRUCTURE OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS, SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND DEADLINES

We invite interested scholars and practitioners to submit a one page proposal outlining their proposed topic and the nature of their contribution. The deadline for receiving proposals is September 30, 2011. Please submit your proposals to Antonio Scarafino (email: antonio.scarafino@eabis.org). Proposals will be reviewed and the authors informed of acceptance by October 3, 2011. The conference will be hosted by the Indian Institute of Management in Kozhikode, Kerala, India.

A full final paper will be expected by March 5, 2012

Editors:

Prof. Dr. Gilbert Lenssen (EABIS), Prof. Debashis Chatterjee (Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode), Prof. Rajendra Sisodia (Bentley & Conscious Capitalism Institute), Prof. Andre Habisch (EABIS and Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt), Prof. Theodore Roosevelt Malloch (Yale University).