FOUNDATIONS OF INDIAN CULTURE

Facilitator: Makarand Paranjape, PhD
Credits: 32. One year. Code: FIC

Dr. Makarand R. Paranjape, a Professor of English at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, is a critic, poet, novelist, short-story writer, literary columnist, and reviewer. He is the author/editor of over thirty-books and has published nearly 150 academic papers. His latest publications include the two mographs, *Acts of Faith: Journeys to Sacred India* and *Making India: Colonialism, National Culture, and the Afterlife of Indian English Authority.*

Program Objectives

- To introduce the major concepts and debates pertaining to Indian culture and civilization, especially in the colonial and post-colonial context.
- To discuss Sri Aurobindo's contributions to these debates and to examine the relevance of his ideas to our times.
- To form an adequate understanding of Indian culture and civilization.
- To know what to cherish and what to change in Indian culture and civilization.

Course 1: Understanding Indian Culture & Civilisation (12 Credits)

1. Introduction to Key Ideas and Issues
2. The Issue: Is India Civilized?
3. A Rationalistic Critic on Indian Culture
4. Religion and Spirituality
5. Indian Art
6. Assimilation & Assessment

Course 2: The Indian Renaissance (12 Credits)

1. Introduction
2. Indian Literature
3. Indian Polity

4. Indian Culture and External Influence
5. The Renaissance in India
6. Assimilation & Assessment

Course 3: Research Practicum/Seminar/Project Work (8 Credits)