



Meditation in Action

conducted by **Mela Interfaith Group at the Janssen Spirituality Centre**

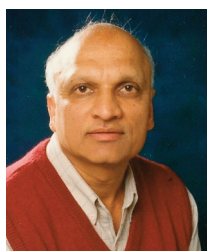
“Meditation in Action”

The use of repetition in spiritual practice - Mantra, breathing, chanting and movement

Deepening our connection with the Divine through the practice of repetitive techniques from differing spiritual paths, and applying these techniques in our everyday lives. This workshop will feature practices from the Hindu and Islamic traditions.



Dr. Herman Roborgh spent many years as a Christian missionary in Indonesia and Pakistan engaged in pastoral work among the Christian community. While living in these two Muslim countries, he witnessed at first hand the deep relationship that Muslims have with God and with the Prophet Muhammad. He realised that Christians and Muslims needed to develop a more respectful attitude towards one another's faith tradition. So he began to deepen his understanding of Islam by studying the languages of Urdu and Arabic. After writing a thesis on a Pakistani scholar who had published an original approach to the interpretation of the Qur'an, Herman completed a PhD in Islamic studies at Aligarh Muslim University in India. Subsequently, Herman returned to Australia where he has been doing further research into ways of interpreting the Qur'an. His interest is to find ways of understanding Islam that can be understood and accepted by people living in a secular society like Australia.



Dr. Jayant Bhalchandra Bapat, comes from Maharashtra State in India and migrated to Australia in 1965. He holds doctorate degrees in Organic Chemistry (Monash University and in Indology (La Trobe University). Dr. Bapat retired as a Senior Lecturer in Organic Chemistry from the School of Chemistry, Monash University, Melbourne, in 1998. Since then, has been an 'Adjunct Research Fellow' at the Monash Asia Institute, Monash University. His current research interests are Indology, Hinduism, Goddess Cults and Tantrism, Jainism, Koli fisher community of Mumbai and Sociology of Religion. He has published several research papers on temple priests, the Koli Fisher community and goddess cults in India. He has also contributed to encyclopaedias of anthropology, sociology and culture. He is co-editor of book, **The Iconic Female: Goddesses of India, Nepal and Tibet** (Monash University Press, 2008) and co-author of a recent book, **The Indian Diaspora: 150 Years of Hindus and Sikhs in Australia** (D.K. Printworld, 2015). Another edited book, 'Conceiving the Goddess' (Monash University Press 2017) was launched a few months ago. Dr. Bapat started working as a Hindu community priest in 1978 and has since performed over 100 official weddings and 900 rituals. For his work in education and for the Indian community, Dr. Bapat was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2011.

Mela Interfaith Group

In association with Janssen Spirituality Centre

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“The use of repetition in spiritual practice
Mantra, breathing, chanting and movement”

Date: Sunday June 18th, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Venue: Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road Boronia Vic, 3155
Cost: \$40 (includes morning/afternoon and a light lunch)
Registration: Please register at <https://www.trybooking.com/QBYU>
For inquiries please email melainterfaithgroup@gmail.com

09.00am	Registration
09.30am	Welcome and Introduction
10.00am	Dr. Herman Roborgh - Islamic Tradition Presentation, instruction, discussion.
10.45am	Morning tea.
11.15am	Dr. Herman Roborgh continued (practice and reflection)
12.00am	Lunch (vegetarian)
1.00pm	Dr. Jayant Bhalchandra Bapat - Hindu Tradition Presentation, instruction, discussion.
1.45pm	Dr. Jayant Bhalchandra Bapat continued (practice and reflection)
2.30pm	Afternoon Tea
3.00pm	General Discussion and Evaluation
4.00pm	Close

Mela Interfaith Group

The **Mela Interfaith Group** seeks to promote the ties of friendship between members of different faith traditions in order to learn from each other's spiritual experience and to journey together in peace and harmony.