

Sacred Texts and Human Contexts: Nature and Environment in World Religions

The industrial revolution of the 19th and 20th centuries, abuse of power and human greed, and a continuing population explosion in many countries around the world have all contributed to an environmental crisis that threatens the very sustainability of life on planet Earth as we know it. Our reliance on fossil fuels, our creation of immense quantities of waste products, our destruction of natural resources to fuel our consumer economics have led to global warming, a reduction in bio-diversity and a serious threat to long term environmental sustainability. This current environmental catastrophe challenges communities to respond out of wisdom of their traditions to the crisis that affects all of humankind.

Some Foundational Questions

- How do religions integrate the discoveries of science with the teachings of tradition with respect to environmental issues?
- How do environmental scientists look into contemporary environmental issues?
- What roles have been and can be played by faith communities in enhancing protection of nature and environment?
- How do women in faith communities respond to the contemporary environmental catastrophe?
- Do our sacred texts declare any actions to be immoral regarding dealing with nature and environment?

For more questions about the environment as well as information regarding registration, arrangements and accommodations, please refer to our website:

<https://www2.naz.edu/interfaith/programs/academic-conferences/sacred-texts-human-contexts/>



May 23 - 25, 2016:
Conference at Nazareth College, Rochester, NY

*Followed by two days of site visits to historical places in Western New York.

The conference is administered by the Nazareth College, Brian and Jean Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue in collaboration with the Department of Religious Studies at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY.

Cosponsors to be added in the future.