

## Vita

**NAME:** GEORGE ALFRED JAMES

**RANK:** ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

**DATE OF BIRTH:** Dec. 21, 1946

**PLACE OF BIRTH:** Vancouver B.C.  
CANADA

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies  
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### EDUCATION:

Year	Degree	Major	Institution	
1983	PhD	Religion	Columbia University,	New York, NY
1976	M. Phil	Religion	Columbia University,	New York, NY
1972	M.A.	Religion	Eastern Nazarene College	Quincy, MA

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Dates	Position	Institution	Location
1990-Pres	Assoc Prof of Phil	Univ. of N Texas	Denton TX
1984-89	Assist Prof of Phil	Univ. of N Texas	Denton TX
1983-84	Visiting Assist Prof	North Texas State	Denton TX
1981-83	Temp Assist Prof of Religion and Phil	Univ of N. Iowa	Cedar Falls IA
1980-81	Adjunct Lecturer	Hunter College	New York NY
1979-80	Visiting Instructor	Southwestern Univ.	Georgetown TX
1978-79	Adjunct Lecturer	Hunter College	New York NY
1975-78	Teaching Assistant	Columbia Univ.	New York NY

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Comparative Environmental Ethics  
Environmental Issues and Movements in India  
History and Phenomenology of Religion  
History and Philosophy of the Study of Religion  
Phenomenology  
Philosophy of Religion

### Consulting:

Consultant in Comparative Environmental Ethics, *Environmental Ethics*, University of North Texas, Denton TX  
Consultant in Comparative Environmental Ethics *Worldviews*, London UK. SE8 3BW  
Consultant in Religious Studies, Mayfield Publishing Company, 1240 Villa Street Mountain View, CA 94041.

**Honors:**

Elected to Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society 2002  
 Listed in *Directory of Distinguished Americans*  
 Listed in *Who's Who in Biblical Studies and Archaeology*

**PUBLICATIONS: (selected)****Books:**

Edited: *Ethical Perspectives on Environmental Issues in India*, (New Delhi: APH Publishing Corporation), 1999.

Authored: *Interpreting Religion: The Phenomenological Approaches of Pierre Daniël Chantepie de la Saussaye, W. Brede Kristensen, and Gerardus van der Leeuw*, (Washington D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press), 1995.

**In Process:**

*Against the Tide: Sunderlal Bahuguna's Life and Philosophy of Nature*. I have completed the preface, the introduction, and the first two chapters of this monograph. I presented the first chapter to the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress of Vedanta in Visakhapatnam, India, Jan 3 –6 2005, and the second Chapter at the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress of Vedanta in Orlando Florida October 13-16, 2005.

*Religious Dimensions of Environmental Movements in India*. This monograph is a study of the religious perception of nature represented in several of India's grassroots environmental movements.

**Articles, Interviews, Chapters in Books:**

“Pandurang Shastri Atavale,” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005

“Auroville” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Swadhyaya Movement,” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Sunderlal Bahuguna” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Appiko Movement” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Ralegan Siddhi,” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Baba Amte,” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Tehri Dam,” in *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (New York and London: Continuum) 2005.

“Environment and Environmental Movements in India,” in *Hinduism in Modern Times* (Denver CO and Oxford UK: ABC-CLIO), 2004.

Interview: “In Conversation, Sunderlal Bahuguna with George James,” *Seminar*, 533 (January 2004): pp. 63-67.

“Atheism,” *Encyclopedia of Religion*, Vol. 1. ed. by Mircea Eliade, Second Edition (Toronto: Thompson/Gale) 2004.

“Salutations,” *Encyclopedia of Religion*, Vol. 13. ed. by Mircea Eliade, Second Edition (Toronto: Thompson/Gale) 2003.

"Ethical and Religious Dimensions of the Chipko Resistance Movement" in *Hinduism and Ecology: The Intersection of Earth, Sky, and Water*, Ed. by Christopher Key Chapple and Mary Evelyn Tucker (Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press), 2000.

"Environmental Ethics and Biodiversity Prioritization in India," in *Setting Biodiversity Conservation Priorities for India: Summary of the Findings of the Biodiversity Conservation Prioritization Project*, Edited by Shekhar Singh, A.R.K. Sastry, Raman Mehta, and Vishaish Uppal 2 Vols. (New Delhi: World Wide Fund for Nature-India), 2000.

“Introduction, “*Ethical Perspectives on Environmental Issues in India*, Edited by George A. James (New Delhi: APH Publishing Corporation), 1999

"The Construction on India in Some Recent Environmental Philosophy," *Worldviews: Environment, Culture, Religion*, 2 (1998): pp. 3-20.

"Religion, Nothingness, and the Challenge of Post-Modern thought: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Keiji Nishitani." *International Philosophical Quarterly*, Vol. 31, No.3 (Sept 1991), pp. 295-308.

"The Status of the Anomaly in the Feminist God-Talk of Rosemary Ruether," *Zygon*, Vol. XXV, No. 2 (June 1990), pp. 167-185.

"The Post-Modern Context," *Contemporary Philosophy*, Vol. XII, No. 11 (November/December 1989), pp. 1-5.

"The Feminist God-Talk of Rosemary Ruether and Theology as Science," *Contemporary Philosophy*, Vol. XII, No. 7 (January 1989), pp. 10-16.

"Atheism," *The Encyclopedia of Religion*, (New York: The Macmillan Company) 1987, Vol. I, pp. 479-490.

"Salutations," *The Encyclopedia of Religion*, (New York: The Macmillan Company) 1987, Vol. 13, pp. 24-28.

"Fundamentalism: What it Used to Mean," *Krisis*, Vol. V-VI (1986-87). pp. 183-189.

"Phenomenology and the Study of Religion: the Archaeology of an Approach." *The Journal of Religion*, Vol. 65, No. 3 (July 1985), pp. 311-335.

### **Forthcoming:**

Vedanta and Environmental Ethics: Sunderlal Bahuguna's Philosophy of Nature. In festschrift for SS. Rama Rao Pappu, forthcoming 2006.

Environmental Philosophy and the Philosophies of India, in a volume of essays published by Diva: India, forthcoming 2006.

### **Papers Presented to Professional Meetings: (selected in reverse chronological order)**

"Behind the Tehri Dam: the Spiritual Ecology of Sunderlal Bahuguna," presented to 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Bringing the Religious Past into the Present: The Environmental Legacy of Religion and its Relevance for Envisioning and Engaging our Ecological Future, Washington D.C. November 30, - December 4, 2005

"Sunderlal Bahuguna's Year Underground," presented to the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress of Vedanta in Orlando Florida, October 13-16, 2005. (Invited)

"Vedanta and Environmental Ethics: Early Influences on the Life and Thought of Sunderlal Bahuguna." 15<sup>th</sup> Congress of Vedanta Visakhapatnam, India, Jan 3 –6 2005. (Invited)

"Vedanta and Environmental Ethics: Sunderlal Bahuguna's Philosophy of Nature," 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of Vedanta, Miami University, Oxford Ohio April 8-11 2004. (Invited)

"Religion, Satyagraha, and the Tehri Dam," presented to the International Conference on World Peace at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India Dec. 28, 2003 – Jan 2, 2004. (Invited)

"Grassroots Environmental Movements in India," presented to the Thirteenth International Congress of Vedanta, Miami University, Oxford Ohio, Sept. 12-15 2002 (Refereed).

"Religion, Satyagraha, and the Tehri Dam," presented to the International Conference on World Peace, Ahmedabad, India, Dec. 29, 2003 - Jan 2, 2004.

"Religious and Spiritual Dimensions of Environmental Movements in India," presented to the Thirteenth International Congress of Vedanta, Miami University, Oxford Ohio, Sept. 2-16, 2002.

"The Construction of India in Western Environmental Philosophy," presented to the Twelfth International Congress of Vedanta, Miami University, Oxford Ohio, Sept. 13-17, 2000.

"Environmental Ethics and Biodiversity Prioritization in India," presented to The Biodiversity Conservation Prioritization Project, sponsored by the World Wide Fund for Nature - India, New Delhi, India, April 28-30, 1998. Invited

"Religion and Care for Nature," presented to the first international symposium on Religious Culture and Ethics, in Beijing China, Nov. 16-19, 1998, jointly sponsored by the Institute of World Religions of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the Pacific Rim Institute for Development and Education. Invited

"Representations of India" (a response to the papers of professors Rao and Dwivedi concerning the environment in Indian traditions of thought) presented to an International Conference on Hinduism and Ecology, at the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, October 2-5, 1997 Invited

"Does Hinduism Entail an Environmental Ethic?" presented at the Southwest regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion, meeting in Dallas TX, March, 1996. Refereed

"India and the Search for Order," *The Teaching of History* a conference of the *American Historical Association*, at the University of North Texas, Oct 30, 1993.

"The Origin of Religion in Nineteenth Century Dutch Theology," presented to the 16th Congress of The International Association for the History of Religions, Rome (Italy), September 3-9, 1990.

"Nishitani and Post Modernism," presented to the Southwest Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, New Orleans Nov. 3-4, 1989. (referreed)

"Cognitive Approaches to Cultural Symbol Systems: Their Nature and Prospect," American Academy of Religion, Southwest Regional Meeting, Dallas Texas, March 10-11, 1989. (referreed)

"The Gnostic Gospels and the Orthodox Christian Tradition: a Study of Early Christianity," A two-part presentation to the *American Humanist Association Convention*, Dallas, TX May 5, 1988.

"Cognition and Contrivance: a Post-Modern Critique of a Recent Theory of Religious Ritual Systems," North American Association for the Study of Religion, Annual Meeting, Chicago Ill, Nov. 18-19, 1988.

"Religion, Nothingness, and the Challenge of Post-Modern Thought: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Keiji Nishitani," Southwest Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, Denton, TX. Oct. 28, 1988. (Invited)

"The Origin of Phenomenological Approaches to Religion in Late Nineteenth Century Dutch Theology," Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta GA, Nov. 25, 1986. (Refereed)

"Late Adolescent Development: its Implications for the Effective Teaching of Religion," Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Anaheim, CA, November 23-26, 1985. (Refereed)

"Heidegger and the French Connection," *The Fifth Annual Heidegger Symposium*, North Texas

State University, June 17-28, 1985. (Invited)

"Luther on the Interpretation of Scripture," presented at Martin Luther: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow. A Symposium Commemorating of the Quincentennial of the Birth of Martin Luther November 14-23, 1983.

**Special Lectures, and Presentations at The University of North Texas and other universities (selected):**

"The Environmental Heritage of the Hindu Religious Tradition," presented to the Montreal Hindu Mandir, Montreal QC, CANADA, Nov 2, 2002.

"Grassroots Environmental Movements in India," Department of Religion, Concordia University, Montreal QC, CANADA, Nov 2, 2002.

"Conceptions and Misconceptions of India in Contemporary Environmental Philosophy," Department of Religion, Concordia University, Montreal QC, CANADA, Nov 1, 2002.

"Martin Heidegger and Modern Japanese Thought," Annual Heidegger Conference, University of North Texas, April 20, 2001.

"Religion and Indian Environmental Movements," a presentation to the Department of Sociology, Mulana Azad College, University of Calcutta, Calcutta (WB) India, Dec 21, 2000.

"Religious and Spiritual Dimensions of the Chipko Movement in Northern India," Women's Studies Colloquium, University of North Texas Denton TX, Feb 2 2000.

Panel discussion concerning recent research on the Historical Jesus. Sponsored by United Campus Ministries, University of North Texas, Apr. 13, 1999.

"Environmental Ethics and the Religions of India," a presentation to the Institute of Environmental Studies of Bharati Vedyapreeth Deemed University Pune, India, July 14, 1998.

"The Historical and Cultural Development of the Islamic Faith," A series of lectures given to a class in Middle East Area Studies, the Department of Anthropology, School of Community Service, University of North Texas, Oct 13 – 17, 1997.

"Environmental Ethics and the Religious Traditions of India," an illustrated lecture series presentation to the students and faculty of the Department of Philosophy, at Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, OK Mar. 19-21, 1995.

"Environmental Ethics and the Religious Traditions of India," a Lecture Presentation to the Department of Design, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, Kanpur India. Jan. 3, 1995.

"Towards a Comparative Environmental Ethics," a Seminar Lecture to the faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, Kanpur, India Jan. 2, 1995.

"World Religions and Environmental Ethics," The 1993 Ecotheology and Religious Education Workshop,  
University of North Texas. July 10, 1993.

"Philosophical and Cultural Foundations of Environmental Ethics in India," sponsored by the Faculty for Environmental Ethics, University of North Texas. May 4, 1993.

"Environmental Ethics and the Indian Religious Tradition," a lecture presentation to the students in the History of Philosophy, The University of Delhi (South Campus), Delhi India, Nov 18, 1992.

"Man as Homo Religiosus: Mircea Eliade's Contribution to Modern Religious Thought." an invited lecture to the Faculty and Students of the Graduate Research Department of Philosophy, The University of Ranchi, Ranchi (Bihar) India, August 2, 1988.

"The Status of Religious Thought and Expression in the Philosophy of Martin Buber," an invited lecture to the Faculty and Students of the Graduate Research Department of Philosophy The University of Ranchi, (Bihar) India, Jan 12, 1987.

"The Synthesis of Western and Eastern Philosophy in the Systematic Theology of Paul Tillich," The University of Ranchi, (Bihar) India, Jan 12, 1987.

## **TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### **Undergraduate Courses**

Great Religions of the World  
South Asian Philosophy and Religion  
East Asian Philosophy and Religion  
Philosophy of Religion  
Phenomenology  
Existentialism  
Ethical Theory  
Early Christian Thought  
Early Hebrew Thought

### **Graduate Courses**

Comparative Environmental Ethics  
Western Religion and the Environment

### **Special Problems Courses:** (undergraduate and graduate individual study)

Readings in Indian Philosophy  
Readings in Theory of Myth  
Sado: The Japanese Way of Tea

American Communalism  
 Sikhism  
 Hermeneutics and the Study of Religion  
 Early Christian Thought  
 American Religious History  
 Rebirth and Reincarnation in Indian Traditions of Thought  
 The Nature of the Sun God Râ, in Ancient Egyptian Religion  
 Baha'i and Christian Views of Eternal and Natural and Human Law

**Master's Theses Directed:**

Sam Mickey, (Interdisciplinary MA: Philosophy, Linguistics and Ethnomusicology) *Sounding Sacred: Interpreting Musical and Poetic Trance*, defended Fall 2005

**Committee member M.A. and PhD theses:**

Mitsuyo Toyoda, *Approaches to Nature Aesthetics: East meets West*, defended October 14, 02.

Elizabeth Grant, *Private Property in America: Land use and the Ethics of Ownersuip*. Defended October 05

Jody Purvis, *A New Approach to Texas Groundwater Management: an Environmental Justice Argument to Challenge the Rule of Capture* Defended July 5, 05.

Scott Warren, Department of Counseling, School of Education, UNT, PhD Thesis. In progress.