



ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL TEACHERS IN INDIA (ATTI)

The Faculty of the Senate of Serampore College (University)

ATTI Newsletter

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Editorial

Greetings from the Association of Theological Teachers in India!

I am delighted to present the first newsletter of ATTI to you. This introductory issue brings the greetings from our President, Acharya Gnana Manohar B. and report from the Secretary, Dr. Vanlalhruii. In addition, a very short introduction of ATTI is also included.

God has called theological teachers with a special calling. It is a challenging calling since the Scripture itself warns, "not many of you should become teachers..." (James 3:1, NLT). This is because teaching is a serious responsibility of equipping servant-leaders for the church. ATTI is committed to encourage and strengthen its members to become increasingly effective in their responsibility and grow together in fellowship with other

teachers in the Senate fraternity. As an ecumenical body, we also envision fellowship with theological teachers from other affiliations in the near future.

Teaching as a mission is a participation in the mission of our Savior himself. This is both a privilege and a responsibility. Let us make best use of every opportunity to fellowship, learn, and grow together. Let us teach to learn and learn to teach, imitating our Lord Jesus Christ. May the Lord help us!



Shivraj K. Mahendra, PhD
Vice President & Editor, ATTI



President's Greetings



Acharya Gnana Manohar B.

Dear Colleagues and Fellow Teachers,

Warm greetings to you all!

As we reflect on the past year, we do so with gratitude and clarity. ATTI exists to strengthen theological teachers within the academic framework of the Senate of Serampore College. Our calling is not ceremonial; it is professional and intellectual. We are entrusted with safeguarding academic standards, cultivating research culture, and mentoring the next generation of theological scholars.

This year has highlighted both progress and persistent challenges. Across Senate-affiliated institutions, we observe uneven academic rigor, declining emphasis on classical languages, and limited research output. These realities must be addressed honestly. Theology without method becomes opinion; exegesis without languages becomes dependence on secondary sources. If we lower standards for convenience, we weaken long-term credibility.

In response, ATTI has promoted faculty development workshops focused on

hermeneutics, research methodology, and academic writing. Regional forums enabled teachers to share resources and engage in critical dialogue. We continue to encourage publication in peer-reviewed journals and active participation in research initiatives connected with BTESSC and Senate structures.

Research must move from consumption to contribution. Theological institutions should not only transmit inherited knowledge but also generate new scholarship grounded in Indian realities. Contextual theology—whether Dalit, tribal, feminist, ecological, or interreligious must remain methodologically disciplined and biblically responsible. Context without rigor lacks credibility; rigor without context lacks relevance.

The digital transformation of education presents both opportunity and risk. Hybrid learning and technological tools require careful integration. Technology should enhance critical thinking, not replace it. Academic integrity in digital environments remains a priority, and teachers must lead by example in ethical scholarship.

Faculty welfare also demands attention. Heavy teaching loads and administrative pressures strain many institutions. ATTI has encouraged peer mentoring and professional support networks, particularly for younger scholars. Investment in teachers is essential for sustaining academic vitality.

Our ecumenical identity remains a strength. Collaboration across denominational lines within the Senate framework fosters intellectual exchange and shared growth. Ecumenism must translate into joint research initiatives, shared academic resources, and deeper cooperation beyond formal meetings.

India's religious plurality further challenges us to cultivate informed interreligious engagement. Theological teachers must equip students to think critically and respectfully within a multi-faith society, neither retreating into isolation nor compromising theological integrity.

Looking ahead, ATTI prioritises strengthening research forums, expanding language and

methodology training, developing shared digital resources, and supporting publication mentoring. These are practical steps toward academic renewal.

The vocation of theological teaching requires intellectual discipline, ethical responsibility, and collaborative commitment. Let us resist complacency and pursue excellence with humility and courage.

I express sincere gratitude to all executive members, regional coordinators, and colleagues whose dedication sustains ATTI's mission within the Senate of Serampore College framework.

May the coming year be marked by renewed scholarship, deeper collaboration, and unwavering commitment to truth.

With respect and resolve,

Acharya Gnana Manohar B.
President, ATTI



ATTI Triennial Conference, Serampore 2025: Participants, Resource Persons, and Members



Secretary's Annual Report



Dr. Vanlalhruaii

The Triennial Conference of the Association of Theological Teachers in India (ATTI) was held on 6th February 2025 at SATHRI, Serampore. The followings office bearers and Executive committee members were elected:

Office Bearers

President: Acharya Gnana Manohar,
Church of the Cross Theological College.

Vice President: Rev. Dr. Shivraj K. Mahendra,
New Theological College, Dehradun.

Secretary: Dr. Vanlalhruaii,
Serampore College, Kolkata.

Joint Secretary: Ms. K. Keziah Glory,
Bethel Bible College, Guntur.

Treasurer: Dr. Gifta Angline Kumar,
Bishop's College, Kolkata.

Executive Committee Members

Rev. Dr. P. R. Hmuaka,
Aizawl Theological College, Mizoram.
Dr. Anish K. Joy,
Syrian Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kerala.
Ms. Vilinoto K. Yeptho,
Immanuel Theological Seminary, Manipur.
Dr. Nungshilepzuk,
Clark Theological College, Nagaland.
Rev. Dr. Allan Samuel Pallana,
United Theological College, Bangalore.
Fr. Alias KV.

The new leaders took charge at the end of the conference. The major challenge facing the leaders was space distance as they hailed from different states of India. To curb this, committee meetings were held online. Regular monthly meetings were conducted on 10:00am of last Saturday of the month. Altogether nine online meetings, and one semi-offline meeting were held so far.

Achievements

Membership drive is going on. The faculty in the Senate of Serampore Affiliated Colleges are eligible for membership. The annual membership fee is Rs. 300. Faculty members from the following Colleges have paid the membership fee: Bishop's College, Church of Cross Theological College, Immanuel Theological Seminary, Kerala Theological Seminary, Master College of Theology, Malankara Syrian Orthodox Theological Seminary, South India Biblical Seminary, Shalom Theological Seminary, Yavatmal College for Leadership Training, United Theological College, Serampore College, ACTC, Weshen Theological College, Eastern Theological College, and New Theological College.

The new ATTI logo was designed by Dr. Shivraj K. Mahendra, the Vice President, and was approved by the Executive Committee. It was published on ATTI WhatsApp group on 4th April 2025, and began to be used for the ATTI different groups logo, website, and also in the letter head. The meaning of the new logo is provided by the designer as follows:

The book represents the Word of God (Holy Bible), the fire represents the Holy Spirit (the wisdom and power of God), and the cross represents our Lord Jesus Christ (the center of our faith and all we do). The cross is made up of four arms (north, south, east, and west) of our nation. The ATTI short form is presented in a progressive way climbing to the cross and coming down from it symbolizing scholarly venture in humility. The full name of the association makes a circle of unity.

The letter head is also re-designed. The new logo is put at the top left corner, and the old logo is also used as a watermark. The office bearers and executive members address and contact are kept at the left side vertically.

The ATTI WhatsApp group was hacked in the month of July 2025. In response to this, WhatsApp security settings in pdf. format was published in the group; all the members were encouraged to follow and secure their WhatsApp. ATTI Official WhatsApp group is created. Only the members who paid the membership fee, and who set their WhatsApp setting according to the security setting provided are admitted in the group. The same group is used for publishing the webinar link.

The ATTI national webinar has been resumed. It is scheduled to be held on the third Friday of every alternate month. During this academic year, three webinars were held. Dr. Anish K. Joy from MSOTS, Rev. Dr. Samuel Mall from Bishop's College, and Rev. Dr. Buduma Mahesh from Masters Theological College, have presented their papers.

The ATTI website, www.atti.co.in is successfully launched and is running well.

The leadership of the ATTI is appreciated for all the new initiatives.

Dr. Vanlalhruii
Secretary, ATTI



ATTI Office-bearers and Executive Committee Members, 2025-2028

THE WAY FORWARD: UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM

There will be an Integrated Symposium on the theme, “Rooted in God’s Creation: Theology, Eco-Care, Organic Agriculture, and Healthy Living” at the Malankara Syrian Orthodox Theological Seminary, Udayagiri, Ernakulam, Kerala, jointly organised by MSOTS, BTESSC, and ATTI from 12th - 15th May, 2026. Theological Colleges and seminaries in South Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu are invited to send two faculty members from each College.

ABOUT ATTI

The Association of Theological Teachers in India (ATTI) was first formed at a Senate of Serampore College conference in Whitefield in 1978. It was decided that members would meet every three years to reflect on their shared responsibilities in teaching, research, and social involvement. The inaugural Triennial Conference took place in Mangalore in 1981, with the theme “Theological Education in the Indian Context of Development.”

ATTI is part of the Board of Theological Education of the Senate of Serampore College (BTESSC). It operates as a network for theological colleges affiliated with the Senate of Serampore College (SSC), offering a platform for core teachers to exchange insights and updates on theological issues. ATTI hosts national and regional seminars where scholars present papers on current topics. It also provides information and resources to all of its members. ATTI promotes participation among theology teachers who are part of the core faculty in SSC-affiliated colleges to enhance the organisation.

ATTI is led by a committed team of theological educators who bring vision, experience, and dedication to strengthening theological education in India. Through every term, our leaders have upheld the values of collaboration, academic integrity, and service to the wider theological community. The leadership of the Association of Theological Teachers in India (ATTI) is composed of distinguished theological educators from across the country. These office bearers are elected every three years during the Triennial Conference and are responsible for guiding the vision, activities, and growth of the association. Since its founding in 1978, ATTI has been served by dedicated presidents, secretaries, treasurers, and executive members who have contributed significantly to the advancement of theological education in India.



THE VISION, MISSION, AND CORE VALUES OF ATTI

Our Vision

To be a vibrant and united community of theological educators committed to advancing contextual, transformative, and socially engaged theological education across India.

Our Mission

To foster collaboration and dialogue among theological teachers from institutions affiliated with the Senate of Serampore College.

Our Core Values

We believe in mutual learning, shared leadership, and the collective advancement of theological education.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ATTI, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Submit your reports, articles, papers, news, and updates, etc., in MS word format to:

Dr. Shivraj K. Mahendra, VP & Editor: +91 72486 57704, Email editor@atti.co.in

TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

Click [ATTI](#) or scan the code:



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