

# Challenges in Higher Education: Perspectives on India and South Africa

by  
H. Russel Botman and  
Ayesha Fakie

*"If there is one place on the face of this Earth where all the dreams of living men have found a home from the very earliest days when Man began the dream of existence, it is India."*

-Romain Rolland , French Philosopher 1886-1944

## Introduction

Truth alone Triumphs. *Satyameva Jayate.*

This is a saying from Sanskrit literature and India's national motto as you no doubt know, taken from the teachings in the Upanishads. An ancient wisdom, it is at once of India, and of the world.

This majestic subcontinent nestled between the Khyber Pass and the Indian Ocean, its diversity of peoples, cultures and landscapes, its richness of oral tales and ancient manuscripts, lost cities once again found, the home of moral truth, non-violence and spiritualism, empires, silk and spice routes, civilisations ebbing and flowing when Stonehenge in the West was still in use, the zero, the wisdom of Buddha, Asoka, Gupta, Akbar, Nehru and Gandhi... this land has indeed sought Truth to triumph. Many have tried and perhaps even conquered this great civilisation, but none have triumphed. India has given much to the world; so much so that many have remarked that no one lifetime is enough to see India's majesty—it is no wonder rebirth is a popular concept.

Knowledge is a path to Truth and Enlightenment. As educators, we are then, all of us,

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