

Cancellation of ECK Springtime Seminar (March 6, 2020)

Dear Friend in ECK,

After careful evaluation, and for everyone's health and safety, ECKANKAR is cancelling the 2020 ECK Springtime Seminar.

Health authorities around the world have expressed their deep concern about the risks of holding large events in the wake of the worldwide COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. We share that concern.

Last year the ECK Springtime Seminar drew attendance from 40 countries, including many now experiencing COVID cases. Many ECKists from COVID-19 affected states and countries have already pre-registered for this year's seminar.

Although there have been no Minnesota reported cases confirmed as of this letter (March 6, 2020), many states in the U.S. have outbreaks or confirmed cases, including Wisconsin, which is next door to Minnesota. Several states have declared emergencies regarding the virus outbreak.

While we regret this step has become necessary, it is based on our greatest concern: your health and well-being.

For those who have pre-registered for the seminar and/or made travel and lodging arrangements, please accept our apologies. We'd be happy to refund your seminar donation. If you'd like to get this refund, please contact Membership Services at 952-380-2222 or by e-mail at membershipservices@eckankar.org.

To cancel your hotel reservation, please refer to your hotel acknowledgement.

To cancel or defer flight arrangements, please contact your airline and/or travel agent as they may waive fees regardless of when a ticket was purchased.

Regarding Local ECK Events

Please follow the guidelines of your local, regional, and national health authorities. The cancellation of the ECK Springtime Seminar does not mean local events in your area will be cancelled. The Springtime Seminar is an *international* mass gathering that presents its own unique risks and complexities.

However, check with your local ECK society and government announcements to see if large gatherings are being discouraged or prohibited in your region. This has occurred in some regions.

If you have questions about events in your area, contact your local ECK leaders.

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Here's a short spiritual exercise and contemplation seed from the book *The Sound of Soul*, p. 38 by Sri Harold Klemp.

The Power of God

HU is a name for God. Sing it to yourself, but first fill your heart with love.

When you're having any kind of trouble and you want an insight into what you can do or an understanding to get through the problem, sing the song of HU.

It has the power of God, and it has the love of God.

In the love of ECK,

The ECKANKAR Spiritual Center