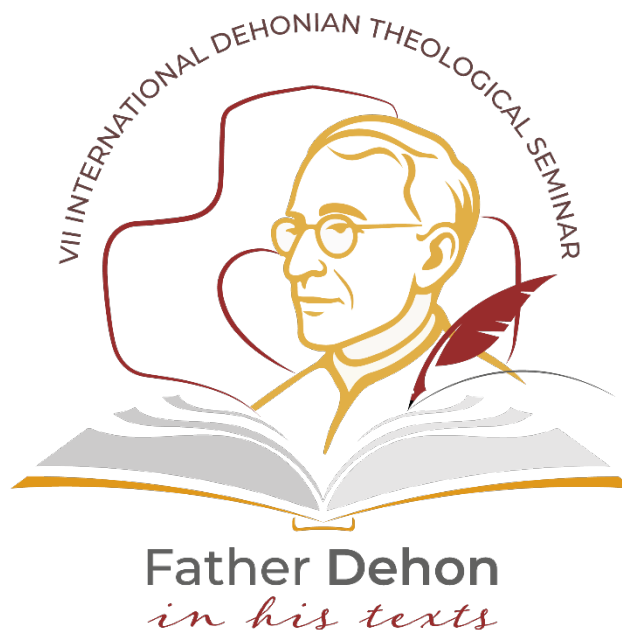


Design of the Logo for the VII International Dehonian Theological Seminar

Fr. Emerson M. Ruiz, scj

The logo of the **VII International Dehonian Theological Seminar**, designed by Fr. José Ronaldo de Castro (BSP), seeks to present a contemplative synthesis of the theme of this congregational event: *“Father Dehon in his texts: exploring the implicit authorial presence of Léon Dehon in his various writings”*. Each element – Father Dehon’s face, pen, book, colors, typography, etc. – refers to the Founder’s legacy, encouraging us to listen attentively to his restless heart, which, in a way, is recorded in the pages of his writings.



Here is a description of the dynamics that guided the creation of this logo:

a) The Dehonian Cross as a horizon... Arranged in a stylized way in the background, the cross serves as an embrace that envelops the entire composition. It reminds us that all of Father Dehon’s literary production springs from an open Heart and returns to it in the form of reparation. Thus, the Seminary is anchored in the certainty that all theological research springs from the *“mystery of his Heart”* (Cst 17).

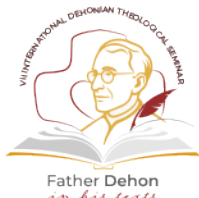
b) The face that emerges from the book... In the center, the silhouette of Father Dehon, in simple lines, seems to emerge from the pages of an open

book. This image symbolizes the “textual Dehon,” the subject of the Seminar, which is revealed in the structure of his books, letters, and meditations. In a certain sense, the Founder’s physiognomy is externalized in his texts.

c) The pen and the continuity of charism... The pen-shaped feather rests at the center of the composition, linking the past and the present. It recalls the various writings of the Founder, but also symbolizes the research work of the Dehonian Family today. It is an invitation to us, as new readers, to continue writing the lines of this story, discerning new features of the Founder’s face that are still waiting to be revealed. The pen represents the legacy of Father Dehon, now entrusted to his family. That is, the mission of every dehonian *to “make this charism effective by responding to the urgent needs of the Church and of the world”* (Cst 1).

d) The meeting of styles in typography... The combination of a regular modern font and the softness of cursive writing reflects the dialogue sought in this Seminar: the interaction between the issues raised by Father Dehon in his time and the challenges of the 21st century. The inscription *“Father Dehon in his texts”* signals the commitment to follow Jesus through the critical, sensitive, and insightful gaze reflected in Father Dehon’s writings, strengthening the charismatic bonds with the Founder and following in his footsteps with creative fidelity.

e) VII International Dehonian Theological Seminar... The registration highlights that the event in Taubaté is part of a series of theological reflections within the Institute: i) *Theologia Cordis* (2008), in Lisbon; ii) *Missio Cordis* (2010), in Brusque; iii) *Anthropologia Cordis* (2014), in Taubaté; iv) *Charism and Devotions* (2017), in Yogyakarta, Indonesia; v) *Sint Unum* (virtually in 2020, originally scheduled for Yaoundé, Cameroon) and vi) *Economy for All* (2023), in Madrid. In short, this is the seventh meeting, organized in formats that are not always



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identical, but whose purpose was the same: to promote theological reflection on the legacy of Father Dehon within the Dehonian family.

Arranged in subtle layers, the elements of the logo reflect the purposes of the **VII Theological Seminar**: discernment, based on the texts of Father Dehon, of new, sometimes hidden, features of his life and message. Designed in the context of the centenary of his death (1925-2025) and the sesquicentennial of the Congregation (1878-2028), the pen in the center of the logo reminds us that the history begun by the Founder in Saint-Quentin continues to be written by the hands of his children in *"this Day of God"* (cf. Cst 147).