

Knowledge is light of Hope

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“Deus’ et non alligatur. God is not bound. Nibbhanam paramam sukham. Unbinding is the Highest Happiness.”

“Aum Satt-Chitt Ananda_Chidda_Ananda_ParamamAnandah Hari Brahmah ParamaBrahmah Namoh Namah”

The highest truth is beyond reason and cause, unbound by karma; it is the womb of grand divine awareness, the delight of million lights. – Jyotikar Pattni ©

The sun [the spirit of all life] in its infinite grandeur brings light to the earthen life, the moon [the mind] sheens illusion of life upon the earthen life. The black and white are night and day. There is eternally only one divine truth, sacred and divine as the Sun that never failing forever illuminates barring the veil of the karmic curtains of the black and white night and day rotating in accordance to the laws of karma and nature [rrtu]. What so ever morale this nature morally springs so beautifully upon the very morale and value apply to all beings existential animate and inanimate alike. The cosmic love that springs forth from the self-denial and blooms in deeds of beneficence, bring us brother-hood of humanity by self-less conscience. Awakened by divinity, inspired by insight, uplifted by beauty, the true knowledge of the soul [within and without]; is the essence of one truth, one light of truth, universal divine truth, and universal divine glory of light. The annihilation of the false ego, false pride, false identity, falsity and desires looms ‘dharma’ [obligation] to discover our true divine nature, our true spiritual ideal, our true spiritual essence, our true spiritual purpose of human life in satt-karma [truthfulness]. All else is imperfect! All else is falsity! Let me feel within me the consuming light of heavenly Sun, which has for long burnt up in my spirit of life everything I desired. Oh divine Sun, transform me divinely onwards to your own nature of light so that I may become a light of delight.

If destroying one another has not solved the catastrophes of human disasters, perhaps it is time to reflect upon the very essence of 'hurt'; and the roots of our collective human 'hurt' rather than employing violent aggressive means to express it. 'Hatred' forsaking faith and human integrity result in loss. Reason and cause work the lower mind to contradict the God's divine gift of divine perception of the truthfulness.

Truthfulness – 'satt' is one just as the Sun is one but its light engulfs and embraces every corners of this earth at different times at the dawn and the dusk. Vedic truth is one. One truth beholds all faiths of the world regardless of the colour, caste, culture, creed, or nationality. Such tenebrous differentiation of one human and another human only prevail from religions perspectives.

Vedas therefore do not speak about prophetic truth, albeit the various messages of various prophets are perceived as wisdom of the benign reasoning.

When we start to believe in two Gods, we will have to then believe in a third God and a fourth God, and in this manner, we will keep creating prophetic Gods and prophetic heroes all of whom we would have to reason with personal subjective intellectual thinking limiting ourselves to conditions and things. One could not believe a mortal to be God. God is an immortal, fathomless spirit of all life.

We are confined with knowledge and wisdom and logic and intellect to believe in 'One' alone God [ekaAum] as "NIRGUNA-Brahma" responsible for the senses with which one perceives God. Heaven and hell are metaphoric concepts that many build upon unproven scientific phenomenon other than the fact that this earth, the world, is divided into people who suffer acutely in mass poverty, ignorance and dreary darkness of diseases and those that live wealthy, healthy, lifestyles. Between the two extremes, we have many kinds of entrapment, entanglement, and karmic bondages that link us in the present time. The present is the reflection and result of the past and the future is the resonant echo of the present. Fate is not what is already made; fate is what we humankind make in karma. "NASEEB" and "BHAGYA" and "FORTUNE" may be there based on the previous life karma. However, our present life karma plays a major part in making our destinies knowingly rather than unknowingly. Learning to look with an equal vision, upon all beings seeing the one self of paramatman in all, will make us realise that it were only part of huge bigger picture. Narcissistic and selfish people only despondently complain and moan. The essence of human transmigration manifests in the white light of knowledge, awareness, and wisdom.

Black will always remain a colour of spiritualism because out of black comes the light. The power of the sun never failing forever shines at every dawn.

Perhaps the anger and aggression is nothing more than one's own ignorance of not being able to realise the ways of life in the slums, the struggles of mass poor, the dreary mundane survival of our human world already diseased in pollution, tragedies, uncertainties and numbness [lack of love]. The core essential reason for manipulating 'truth' from being black and white into a greyish criterion is somewhat synthetic to suit the human mind and to divide the real divine nature of humanity into many thousands of groups, cults, sects, religions, cultures, and castes. The end purpose of such canny neutralisation of protagonist truth into new phenomenon of neither this nor that is a construed web of human intellect swerving away from the real divinity by giving birth to many man made religions. Over the last ten thousand years, the human mind has collectively created prophetic faiths, based on institutional religion, creating many groups of followers and many sects of dogmatic religions reigned by prophetic heroism or prophetic leadership. Division, segmentation, fragmentation, and segregation of humanity by causing thesis, anti-thesis and synthesis has resulted in lucid antagonism of one human and another human emanating from disagreement or differential faith, beliefs and values resulting in wars.

Life mystically, mysteriously, somehow, in somewhat incredible manner draws upon us different perspectives in varying experiences. Our human life fate and passage in time may vary like different rivers journeying in karmic time from their birth springs to the destined shores to become unanimously nothing in the grand Ocean. The more we grow and evolve in karmic time and karmic experiences, the more we understand our world at large and its divine metamorphosis. Over time, we feel more responsible towards our social eviscerations and dismal uncertainties prevailing in our societies that affect our minds and our hearts and our emotions and our feelings. Bigotry and betrayals, lies and deceit, pretence and hypocrisy never triumph in the karmic sense because eventually the loom of goading and hoarding wealth under false ownership and obsession of overpowering ambitions render the human entity diseased. Karma theories and Vedic wisdom have portrayed light of truth triumphantly overcoming the darkened doom of dreary mundane ignorance and falsity. Falsity has shown to remain grey because falsity never ever reigns with immortality. Mahatma Gandhi fought falsity amidst all odds and died to become immortal light of wisdom. Many such good humanbeings come, go, and give us the light of truth. Such energies are enough to sustain us for another decade or so.

In the minds of those who measure people by power and prestige, there will always remain discrimination between the rich and the poor, the east and the west, the pride and the poverty, the mass ignorance and the individual prowess of false ownerships.

“Let noble thoughts come to us from all perspectives” (Rig Veda). Noble is not just peaceful thoughts and elevated philosophies. Noble imply truth. Nobleness means the truth. Knowing the truth and not doing anything about it is bigotry and betrayal to one’s own spirit of life and one’s own soul divine.

For example: What is the truth behind the Iraq war?¹

¹ On May 1, 2005, the *Times of London*, Britain’s most respected newspaper, published the minutes of a Prime Minister’s meeting that took place on July 23, 2002. Even though this **once secret memo** proves once and for all that the Bush administration lied and fabricated evidence leading up to the war in Iraq, it has received virtually no attention from the mainstream American media. The authenticity of the memo has been backed by the British government and has been deemed “absolutely accurate” by a senior American official. Granted, most Americans have chosen which story they want to believe concerning the war in Iraq. But there are versions of the truth—and then there is the truth. Have we become so partisan that we can no longer accept one version of the truth? I fear that is the case. And isn’t it ironic given that the Bush administration deals in so many absolutes? The meeting recorded by this memo took place eight months before the invasion of Iraq. The memo states clearly and unequivocally that the Bush administration had already decided to attack Iraq. At this time, the President was stating publicly that war was only an option and that the U.S. was still trying to find a diplomatic solution. The memo called the case against Iraq “thin” and went on to say that “Saddam was not threatening his neighbors and his WMD capability was less than that of Libya, North Korea or Iran”. All of this from our ally who was supposedly working with the same flawed intelligence that this administration blamed for lack of Iraqi WMDs. The most damning evidence is found on the first page of the memo and should be quoted directly. I have added italics for emphasis:

There was a perceptible shift in attitude. Military action was now seen as inevitable. Bush wanted to remove Saddam, through military action, justified by the conjunction of terrorism and WMD. *But the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy.* The facts were being fixed. This administration fabricated the case against Iraq, sold it to a still shaken American public, and started a war that it doesn’t know how to end. George W. Bush lied to the American people when he

Eternal divine truth of the self is the divine light that arises from the fount of the soul. Soul is eternally sacred and soul is light. Only the sense of its divine awareness or its awakening in the inspirational structure could be co-related to another. Such an inspirational light of “hope” is a divine congruence of humanity that brings together the three worlds. One may be able to transcend knowledge; nevertheless, Vedic wisdom is perceived by consciousness of the soul in divine experiences. To enter into the thoughts of another and to create their own reverberations in a sympathetic resonance is a sacred divine knowledge of listening to the old voices and allowing the ‘Srutti’ [resonance] in the soul to respond to it.

made the case for invading Iraq. This memo is the proof. Now, as I said before most Americans made up their minds a long time ago about where they stand on the war. That is our right as Americans. What I find so abhorrent is this relativism that plagues our public discourse, which is once again ironic given the President’s attacks on moral relativism.

Whether or not you support the war, the truth is the truth. Whether or not you support the President, the truth is the truth. Bush lied. He lied when he said that Iraq was a threat to this country. He lied when he said that his administration had evidence of an Iraqi weapons program. He lied when he said his administration had an exit strategy. Being an Activism feature, this is a call to action on your part. All I ask is for you to read the [Downing Street Memo](#) for yourself. It’s short and to the point, like most memos. All I am is another American with a two-bit website and an email list. I am in no way, shape, or form the mainstream media. Many websites have published this memo. Many of you have probably received some sort of call-to-action email from a progressive PAC. I’m not asking you to call your congressman or news agency. I’m not asking you to contribute money to a cause. You should do all of these things if you are so inclined. All I’m asking you to do is read one short memo. You don’t need the mainstream media to interpret it for you. Just read it with your own two eyes. Just read it and walk away knowing the truth. It’s sad that the citizens of this country don’t care that their leaders lie to them. We almost expect it. But leading the nation into war under false pretenses is an impeachable offense. I seriously doubt that this memo will lead to that. Just take the truth in your heart. It’s a fine place to start. In addition, when anyone tries to label you as a radical for saying Bush is a liar and we went into Iraq under false pretences, all you have to do is defend the truth. The truth will always prevail in the end. Light of hope comes eventually and there is synthesis because the world karmic cycle is changing rapidly to give rise to a new karmic cycle.

Vedas refer to divine light as the light of the Surya. Surya - Sun or the soul brings hope therefore and hope always prevails after a nightfall and dusk in renewed dawn. Hope always comes from the positive energies of the rising Sun. Thence, Vedas rejoice the hymns of the Sun-God and Gayatree Mantra is the divine mantra of pure intellect, pure consciousness and pure perception.

Much hope is created from Vedic rites and rituals creating vibrations and reverberating in Vedantic hymn of sacred mantras and sacred lyrics to gradually gain in clarity, intensity, and fullness. Vedas grant hope and solace to the world numbed by corruption.

The world class “Corruption” [agham] has nine heads (nine kinds/ navaaghamanah) and it enters the human body through ninety-nine sources i.e. nine kind of corruption enters through five senses, five sense organs and outward looking mind. Taking bribe for money belonging to the state is misappropriation of public funds. All bribe takers are thieves of God and they get rebirth in the foulest of the womb (confirmed even in Bhagavad-Gita). R.V 3-34-6 and Yajur Veda 30-22: the corrupt people should not be allowed by the ruler to mix with people following *chatvar varnasharam* (four divine professions). Y.V 30-19 and R.V 5-61-8 mention that those persons who praise and justify are also corrupt persons, keep away from them. R.V 1-42-4 even mentions keep away from Gurus (preceptors) who take commercial money in the name of religion and in the name of Vedic Astrology. Vedas stipulate clearly that those who sell Vedic wisdom are thieves; those who evade taxes and deprive the government of their legitimate right of money are thieves! Those who deprive women and children of their legal right of money are thieves. Those who abuse children and women and the weak are thieves. All thieves end up in fatal deaths and fatal diseases and those who steal another’s wealth and falsely possess another’s property repay their vikarma or bad karma in life hereafter call it what you may. Vedas classify life hereafter as transmigration of the soul from the physical mortal body into spiritual journey.

Causes of Corruption: The corruption creeps in society that has diminution in faith, increase in indulgence, selfishness, greed, and egocentricity exacerbated in its excessive forms/uses. Where virtue no longer holds, wherein the lies become the bases of defence, where in the Corruption creeps in a society wherein economics (*artha*) is based on inert matter and the possession of wealth/any kind of matter having predominance of *tamasic guna* of stupor is considered as a matter of pride. ‘Maya’ or the sense of obsession and false ownership and falsity creates blockages for egocentric individuals and hides the truth and Supreme Reality for them.

Vedas imply that purpose of human birth is to assist 'nirguna Brahmanathe' (ineffable and formless God) who is also Supreme Architect (Viswakarma) in the maintenance of His Grand and wondrous Design. For the maintenance of this harmonious existential design, trinity of Vedic Godhead [Brahma-Vishnoo-Mahesh] has created 'Rta' - eternal cosmic laws of necessity and wants all human beings to follow the same. God and His Laws (Rta) are the same.

When the individuals in any society starts ignoring these laws available to human beings through the Book of Nature (which even blind individuals can read), corruption creeps in society. When humankind averts from 'satt-karma' [righteousness] to 'vikarma' [assatmayah], the world at large becomes uncertain in climatic changes, in warfare, in pollution, in corruption, and diseases, and in tragic sudden upheavals. Furthermore, waste causes corruption. Any kind of financial wastage is conducive to corruption including gambling particularly the game of dice is also cause of corruption. Arguments that have no basis to benefit humanity are waste of energy. Corruption destroys all the noble attributes of human beings due to pursuit of only material knowledge bereft of spiritual and divine knowledge, which in Vedas is ignorance/nescience/*ajnan*. (R.V 1-129-6). Rig Veda says when even one human being dies of starvation, it is a signal that corruption has crept in society and *avaras* (followers of non divine professions) who want honour, power and wealth for themselves have started multiplying. In Kaliyuga (Dark_Age), their number far exceeds the followers of divine professions (*varnas*). Ethics and community welfare becomes the greatest casualty. Rig Veda says the thieves of God (bribe givers/takers) who consider matter as inert become insensitive to hydra headed corruption and resort to ostentatious worship and donations/gift culture to gain social recognition. Most of them drift from darkness to utter darkness through meditation (Isa Upanishad and Yajur Veda).²

² The various virtuous concepts like *idam na mam* –nothing for self all for society akin to enlightened liberalism of Aristotle, moderation of Vedas/middle path of Buddha and the noble concept of illusion of comfort in the vast turbulent sea of matter (Vedic Phantasmagoria-Cosmic delusion MAYA) are no longer considered as virtue in the materialistic corrupt society dominated by *avaras*, *vrtras*, *kimidin* etc. In India this evil of corruption is now becoming “Leviathan” and giant demon and is spreading like wild fire. The guide lines given by the wise metaphysicists (*rsis* of yore) and wandering sages (*munnies* of the Vedic period) can help in arresting this nefarious and extremely dangerous drift. Kautiliya in his socio-political treatise “Arthashastra” (partly based on Vedic metaphysics) clearly says the evil of

Only harmonised divine, spiritual, and material knowledge is true knowledge (*Janan*) in Vedas. Hope emanates from sacrifice, charity, and hommamm.

Vedas consider all creation to begin from divine light emanating from the Supreme Being Brahma Purusha. In the “Kurma Purana”, chapter 3, verses 1 & 2 are describing Bhuvanakosha or the matrix of this universe, ‘*Evamesha Mahadevo Devadevah Pitamahah Karoti Niyatam Kalam Kalatma Hyaisvari Tanuh Tasya Ye Rasmayo Viprah Sarvaloka pradipakah Tesam Sresthah Punah Saptarasmayo Graha yonaya*’. “In this way the Great Lord, the Lord of the Lords, the universal Grandfather, always creates time and HOPE, He being the Essence of time, with a body endowed with all conceivable powers”. Vedas are the source of light emitting hope to the existence at large. ³

corruption spreads faster when the state gives lip sympathy to curb corruption and promote honesty.

³ The Vedas consist almost entirely of human's attempt to understand the most lofty things-What is God, Bliss, Truth-and the conclusion they reach concerning these questions. For a long time the Vedas were popularly known as *Sruti*. The word in its ordinary sense means something that is heard, but its deeper meaning is the revealed Truth. The contents of the Vedas are believed to have revealed by the Supreme Being to the *Rishis* during their meditation. Some of the vedic Rishis, such as Vasishtha, Viswamitra, Atri, Parasara, Kanwa, and Madhucchanda figure so often in mythology, legends and old stories that we are familiar with their names. Besides, most Indian families trace their origins to these Rishis. So, our association with the authors of the Vedas is deep-rooted. The Rishis of the Vedas believed that man had, besides his body and mind, an inmost self or soul, the '*atman*'. To discover that self means to know one self truly. A man became a Rishi, a seer, only when he knew himself available to others to help them to achieve this knowledge. The *Rishi* would instruct the few students seated on the ground about him by rote and for many hours daily they would repeat verse of the Vedas. The Vedas do not preach any religion or dogma. They are the records of the inner experiences of the *Rishis*. However, the experiences are not described as we would describe our experience of, say, a journey to a remote land or an expedition to a mountain. What the *Rishis* realized in their meditations was too profound to be expressed in the usual way. So. They used what is known as 'symbolic language'. That is to say, words used in the Vedas have a deeper meaning than is obvious. Here are two examples: "*Usha*" means dawn. But in the Vedas the word means the Goddess who brings divine light into man's clouded mind. Or take the word '*Agni*' which means fire. In the Vedic sense, it

means not only fire-the devourer and the purifier-but also energy, will and the force that drives one on towards truth. The great seer-poet Vyasa had divided the Vedas into four sections: **Rig**, **Yajur**, **Sama** and **Atharva**. They contain hymns in praise of various gods, prose texts on various sacrificial rites and ceremonies and philosophical texts, which clearly reveal a very high stage of, abstract thinking.

Hindu-Indian-Vedic tradition states that human is an older creature than science would have us believe. The Puranas say that there was once a great deluge in which all-living creatures and things were submerged and destroyed. Vishnu, however, entered the waters and rescued the Vedas. Does this legend suggest that the Vedas are the documents of a civilization that existed once upon a time in the dim past? For a very long time before they written down, the Vedas were passed from generation to generation by word of mouth. The language in which they are composed is very mature; it is capable of expressing a great deal in a very few words. To achieve this stage of maturity the language must have been in use for a very long time. Only a great civilization could have developed such a language. Let us hope that one day we will know about the civilization that produced the Vedas and understand the hymns in their true sense, for it is said in the Vedas that their meaning can be understood only when human develops the seer's wisdom.



Mata Saraswatti is the first molecule, first atom, first energy that brings hope to the existence of mortal humankind in the form of speech, voice, sound, and music.

‘Avirvabhuva tatpashchanmukhatah Paramatmanah’, that is, one who has her origin direct from the mouth of Brahmah_God is Saraswati. One of the aspects of Vishwadevah – a collective name for a group of deities with various names, their more widely accepted number being twelve, Saraswati manifests as Vak – speech, wherein reveals the world of name and form – material or abstract, present or past, celestial or terrestrial, all that is known or shall ever become known by knowing the unknown in divine pursuit of divine knowledge and wisdom.

The goddess of learning and intellect ‘jyotiswarupaynee’ – lustrous, Saraswateemaa is the light within that infinite radiance of God that illuminates beyond the metamorphosis of all this, that and the other.

As the supreme light of hope, she imparts to the sun its power to reveal a form, and to human, the desire to discover the formlessness God.

Puranas assign to her a lotus seat and a swan as her vehicle – symbolising purity, chastity, and detachment which Saraswati represents in her being. From the unborn formlessness, MataSaraswatee descends the celestial spirit of life from the higher order to the earthen clay of humankind. ⁴

The *Vedas* have taught about two kinds of *dharma*: '*vihita dharma*' and '*nishiddhaadharma*' (prescribed *dharma* and prohibited *adharma*); in other words, the Do's and Don'ts for regulating one's life.

Remedial Measure is the unique feature of Vedic Astrology (Jyotish) that allows one to solve his or her problems by modify the karma through Vedic ways. It lessens the negative energies of one's karma to bring peace, harmony and prosperity in his life. Jyotish Remedial Measure means a conscious effort which may include chanting (Japa) of Vedic prayers (Mantras), wearing of gemstones (Ratnas), fasting (Upavash) on certain days, wearing amulets (Yantras or Kavaches), donating to the poor (Daana), offering selfless services (Sheva) to others, contributing to Vedic fire-rituals (Yajnas) etc. Remedy is a very powerful tool and through it, there might be great or even complete reconfigurations in the stage of a person's life.

⁴ I am verily the light, the light of delight, the light of hope. All else is false. All else is irrelevant and dies in mortal time. Time perpetually eternally lives in karmic cycles albeit here on the human earth, mortal death brings its death in matter. All is fire! All is ablaze. Nothing remains immortal save the soul divine atman. The world is a place of decay, wrath, and replenishment. There is no disease equal to greed. There is no enemy greater than anger. There is no sorrow greater than poverty. There is no happiness equal to wisdom and delight of enlightenment. Belief in God has declined. *Dharma* has disappeared. Atheism is on the increase. There is no respect for the *guru*-preceptor. Devotion to God, respect for our ancient culture, and tradition have been given farewell. There is no patronage for true education. Only bread-earning education has become the order of the day. These, alas are the signs of modernity! "I am in the Light; The Light is in me; I am the Light." *Atma jnana* (knowledge of the Self) is *Veda*.. *Brahma jnana* (knowledge of the supreme Absolute) is *Veda*. *Advaita jnana* (non-dual knowledge) is *Veda*. *Veda* is *vijnana* (knowledge par excellence). All these terms are synonyms for Self-knowledge or *Atma jnana*. The divinity of the *Veda* is all-pervasive and has eight aspects of splendour, viz., *sabda Brahma-mayee* (sound Brahman), *charachara mayee* (movable and immovable), *jyothirmayee* (effulgence), *vaangmayee* (speech and literature), *nityaananda mayee* (everlasting bliss) *paratpara mayee* (transcendental), *maya mayee* (delusion), and *sree mayee* (prosperity). This is indeed the *Prajnanamaya Brahma* (constant integrated awareness). The *jnani* who has realised thus will surely become one with Brahman.

The *Veda* consists of three “*kandaas*” or Cantos, namely, *Karma Kaanda* (cantos dealing with rituals and other actions), *Upasana Kaanda* (cantos of devotion), and *Jnana Kaanda* (cantos of wisdom). There is the fourth canto or aspect of Vedas and the fifth part of Vedas supported by karma-contemplation and *mokshaamruttah_atmandhyaan_dharatti*. Human evolves with good karmic actions, righteously recognising that the human body is meant for achieving *dharma* (righteousness) through *satt_karma* – virtuous deeds and virtuous actions.

When one goes on performing good *karmas*, one will in due course become fit for understanding Upasana (devotional practices) and dharana_dhyaana or contemplation for mokshah [emancipation].

When we worship God [param-atman] over a period of long spiritual and divine time, with love and in a spirit of loving compassionate dedication, we may attain the final stage of Jnana_mukti [liberation from wisdom, awareness and knowledge of the self].

On the whole, *satt-karma*, *upasana*, and *jnana* may be considered as three stages of one process, comparable to the flower, the raw fruit, and the ripe fruit respectively. Since the common people cannot understand and practise the teachings of the *Veda*, subsidiary literature has been created later in the form of *Ved_Puranas* (mythological treatises) and *Ithihasas* (epics), so that even the lay people can practise *karma*, *upasana*, and *jnana*.

Vedanta is NOT therefore the end and closure of the Vedas but the modernity of philosophies and contemplation of thoughts at a higher platform of consciousness to perceive the essence of God, within the framework of Vedic knowledge of karma.

Many false gurus bring falsity and distort the true real meaning of having the Vedanta. *Upasana yoga* consists of loving God whole-heartedly and with *trikaranasuddhi* i.e., harmony and purity of thought, word, and deed. It is not true *upasana* if one loves God for the sake of achieving his worldly desires. It should be love for love’s sake. The followers of *jnana yoga* consider the whole universe as the manifestation of God. Believing that Divinity resides in all beings in the form of *Atma*, is called *Divya_Jnana*. This is what we refer to as hope or light of hope!⁵

⁵ Vysampayana was the foremost among the disciples who learnt the *Vedas* from the Sage Vyasa. Vysampayana sanctified his life by implicitly obeying his *guru* and by learning his lessons studiously and thoroughly. After completing his studies, Vysampayana established a *Gurukula*—for teaching the *Veda* to his disciples.

By *Gurukula* is not meant a separate institution with its own set of rules and regulations like the presentday schools and colleges. The *guru*'s house itself constituted the *Gurukula*. Whatever kind of food the *guru* ate was given to the disciple as *prasad*—holy food. The disciple should stay with the *guru* day and night. One disciple by name Yajnavalkya joined Vysampayana's *Gurukula*. He had a keen intellect and could learn his lessons very fast. The *guru* was also highly pleased with him. People who knew Yajnavalkya began praising him with the result that he developed *ahamkaram* (ego) followed gradually by *alakshyam* (indifference) and *asabhyata* (lack of decorum.) Vysampayaan noticed these lapses on the part of Yajnavalkya. One day, he called him and told him sternly, "Yajnavalkya! You don't deserve to stay in this *Gurukul* any longer. You must leave this place immediately. Before you leave, you must return all that you have learnt from me." Accordingly, Yajnavalkya, who recognised his own shortcomings, vomited all that he had learnt from his *guru*. His vomitings were eaten by *tittiri* birds, and the latter began chanting the *Upanishad*, which was therefore named as *Taittiriya Upanishad*. There are two traditions or *sampradayas* in the *Veda*, viz., *Brahma sampradaya* and *Aditya sampradaya*. That which was vomited by Yajnavalkya came to be known as the *Brahma Sampradaya*, also called the *Krishna Yajur Veda*. After leaving the *Gurukul* of Vysampayana, Yajnavalkya sincerely repented for his delinquency and atoned for it by giving up food and drink and practised *Suryopasana* (Sun worship) ,undergoing severe austerities by way of penance. Pleased with this penance, the Sun God appeared before him in the form of Vaaji and told him, "My child! What is past is past. You should guard yourself against such lapses in future. Betraying the *guru* or God is highly dangerous. Be careful hereafter, I will now teach you the *Vedas* again." So saying, the Sun God taught him the *Vedas*. The reason for the Sun appearing in the form of Vaaji was that Yajnavalkya's forefathers always used to do *anna dana* (free distribution of food), so their family got the name Vaajasam.

The *Veda* taught by him was also called by the alternative names of *Sukla Yajur Veda*, *Vajasas Khanda*, and *Aditya Khanda*. *Yajur Veda* has been divided into two. For this reason, although the *Vedas* were originally four in number, they have subsequently become five, namely *Rig Veda*, *Krishna Yajur Veda*, *Sukla Yajur Veda*, *Sama Veda*, and *Atharvana Veda*. Recognising that the Sun appeared before him as Vaaji and taught him the *Vedas* because of the free distribution of food by his ancestors, valkya gave primary importance to *anna daana* in his teaching which, among others, included the following:

"There is no gift higher than the gift of food and no God higher than the parents. There is no truth higher than *japa* and *thapas* (reciting the holy Name and doing penance).

There is no *dharma* higher than compassion and no gain higher than the company of the good. There is no enemy more dangerous than anger and no disease more serious than indebtedness.

There is no death more horrible than ill-fame and no wealth more valuable than fame. There is no ornament more beautiful than *smaran* (remembering God through chanting His names).” Yajnavalkya, moreover, emphasised especially in his teachings to his disciples the extreme importance of service to parents and *guru*, as well as *anna dana* (free distribution of food). You must always remember the five life-breaths relating to the *Vedas*, which I mentioned earlier. You should avoid these five things: (1) indifference to what the *guru*, parents, and other elders teach you, (2) disobedience to the aforesaid, (3) *ahamkara* (ego), (4) jealousy or envy toward those who are better off, and (5) violating the social etiquette or decorum. Unfortunately, today, the prescribed things are being given up and the prohibited things are being taken up. This is sheer folly and ignorance. The prohibited things should be rejected, even though you might have taken lots of trouble to acquire them. For instance, you have purchased from the market a big mango fruit for five rupees. Just because you have spent five rupees on it, will you eat the skin outside and the stone inside the fruit? No, no. You will eat only the pulp and reject both the skin and stone. Similarly this world is like a fruit, and you have to accept what is good in it and reject what is bad for you. Modern day problems include shortfalls like foul play, injustice, losses, failures, sorrow, and pain. People do not believe in themselves, not to speak of believing others. First of all, develop Selfconfidence, and that in turn will give you self-satisfaction. Without self-satisfaction, you cannot have contentment. Once you have gained self-satisfaction, then automatically you will be ready for self-sacrifice. Needless to say, where there is self-sacrifice, there will be Self-realisation naturally. Everyone should undertake *sathkarmas* (good actions) which lead to *chitta suddhi* (purity of mind). Where there is purity, there will be *jnana siddhi* (dawn of wisdom). *Chitta suddhi* is the stage of *upasana* when one engages himself in loving God and worshipping Him in various ways over a period of time, leading to *Atma viswaasam* (Self-confidence).

The perceptible move-ments of the second-hand and the minutehand should bring about the imperceptibly slow movement of the hour-hand. Otherwise, no purpose is served by the second-hand and minute-hand. So also, unless your good actions, worship and love of God, lead to *Atmaviswas* or Self-confidence, the former two will be futile. Whenever you have time, it will suffice if you take up at least one of the nine modes of *bhakthi* (such as *sravanam*, *kirtanam*, etc., already explained to you in My earlier discourses). God does not consider how wealthy or how learned you are; He is concerned only with the sincerity and purity of your mind and heart and about how whole-hearted and genuine your love is. Valkimi was a hunter.

Knowledge and education lends beauty and grace to human. Education is human's secret wealth. Knowledge/ education is the source of well establishment, comfort, and security of the social happiness. It is the teacher of teachers. Education is the true kinsman for one going abroad. It is the third eye for man. Rulers honour the scholar more than the man of wealth. One without education is an animal. This is the message of Bhaaratheeya-Vedic culture. Life goes on whether a man acquires culture or not or pursues studies or not. But the life-span melts like ice from day to day. Dharma only protects and nurtures those who protect dharma and integrity!

Nanda was an untouchable. Kuchela was a pauper. Dhruva and Prahalada were mere lads of five years. Sabari was a tribal woman, illiterate and uncivilised. But all of them had won God's Grace in abundance, because of their wholehearted devotion, love and surrender. Follow the example of Sabari, who always thought of Sri Rama and His happiness, and dedicated all her thoughts, words, and deeds to Him alone, so much so that every action of hers was transformed and sublimated into the highest *thapas* (penance.) From her example, you must learn the lesson that meditation does not mean sitting idle in a particular posture of the body, as if you are posing for a photograph. As in her case, your entire life must become a continuous meditation wherever you may be staying and whatever you may be doing. Whatever you eat or drink must be offered to God as *naivedya* or holy offering. In this manner, if you offer everything to the Lord, you will naturally be prevented from engaging yourself in bad actions or evil ways in your life. Therefore, students! I am bringing My long discourse to a close, with the hope and blessing that you will practice with your hands what you have heard here through your ears, and thereby sanctify your lives and also contribute your share to make the future of Bharath (India) bright and prosperous.

The elements and the Divine

It is essential to have faith in God. The five elements are manifestations of God. They are the earth, water, fire, air and ether (or space). In the earth God exists in the form of *Prajna* (Awareness). In fire, God is in the form of *Jaagratha-Swaruupa* (wakefulness). The *Vedhik* warning is, "Be awake". In air, God exists as the *Praana* (vital breath). In ether (or space) God pervades it as the primordial sound, *Omkaara*. Every element thus proclaims the manifestation of one aspect of God.

The Gaayathri *manthra* has all the three elements which figure in the adoration of God description, meditation and prayer. The first nine words of the *manthra* - "*Om-Bhur-Bhuvas-Suvah-Thath-Savithur- Varenyam-Bhargo-Dhevasya*"--represent the attributes of the Divine. *Dheemahi* pertains to *dhyaana* (meditation). "*Dheyo yo hah Prachodayaath*" is the prayer to the Lord. The *manthra* is thus a prayer to God to confer all powers and talents. Gayatri mantra is mantra for illumination and light.

Even before one realises his duties, one's life comes to an end just as the melting ice becomes water. In the sphere of education, every thinking man is confronted with baffling problems. Educational institutions have forgotten their obligation to make education a source of strength and happiness in daily life. Educational ideals have lost their appeal. Education has ceased to become creative. It has become a destructive force by setting various aggressive competitions to adhere to historical teachings of the science. Respect and reverence are down in the dumps. Education has been commercialised. Students are more keen to make money by any means rather than to acquire knowledge. Educational institutions, which ought to be citadels of morality, integrity, sacrifice, and character, have ceased to foster morality. Students do not attempt to develop good qualities, while cultivating friendships and participating in common activities.

Character is most important for a student. It is the essence of Bhaaratheeya culture. Integrity of the soul divine means knowledge of the atman is superior to the skills and technology of the modernity. Without cultural refinement, can anyone hope to earn honour? To respect one's own soul is to respect another. In self-respect, one cannot, does not, and will not, undertake bribe, avoid taxes, evade government funds scrupulously as if these were noble acts of humankind.

Without morals, one does not acquire the esteem of others. One therefore must begin by investing samnskara into children at home about good culture and good manners. Good culture therefore is the knowledge of the family values of divine altruism of humanity. If one preaches righteousness without practising it at home, then one is a hypocrite and others sooner in the society will not respect one.

Morality and integrity have to be awakened and with the knowledge of the Vedas, India as a spiritual land of Gods and seers must become once more a Grand nation of humanity, contemplation, divinity, sacrificial compassion, loving dignity, and integrity with the knowledge of the Vedas have been given up. To wipe the tears of Mother Bhaarathi, every Bhaaratheeya should cherish the culture of Bhaarath and respect one's true Vedic heritage without wavering into cults, sects, meaningless feuds and corruption.

Equality, unity and co-operation combined in all spheres of knowledge will bring India/Bharati as the nation of future world brining light of hope to our future generation children. Presently, our Bharati is going to pieces because of the lack of mutual respect and unity. Education is not confined to reading, writing, and listening to forums and books and Encyclopedia. Degrees do not constitute true marks of learning. Without wisdom and spiritual knowledge, can there be real education?

Most importantly, Bharati lacks awareness of our own divinity instead; Indians indulge in selfishness of building empires of foreign and offshore businesses. Education is not for earning a living but for leading the good morale life. All education, which imparts worldly knowledge and develops intellectual activities without promoting character, is utterly worthless and this is essentially the crux of modernity.

Morality imparts value to human life. Divine knowledge is true education that promotes morality, character, and spirituality. Science and Technology are undoubtedly necessary for comfortable living. But there is an unseen power which underlies the physical world. Today students should acquire both physical knowledge for living and spiritual knowledge for understanding that which sustains life; the two together help to make fullness of human knowledge that emits light of hope. From divine knowledge blossoms prosperity that is based on health and good character. It is morality that imparts value to human life. Morality and Integrity are today confined to books. The heart is utterly polluted. Hands are engaged in selfish pursuits. This is the progress of modern education. (Thelugu Poem). Humankind has progressed in science and technology far reaching the outer space. Nevertheless, morality and integrity are depleting with the elapsing time. There is a need for immediate 'u-turn' to promote moral values to the whole world at large. The ancient sages enthroned righteousness and gave the highest place of honour for the spirit of sacrifice and compassion to give divine knowledge. They adored justice and revered truth. In this way, they bequeathed to the nation its greatest cultural heritage. Thus Vedic heritage without the confines of tenebrous limitations of religious diversities and cultural diversities in India is "divine knowledge" a knowledge more composite of the necessary skills, technology and morality. Many foreign invaders and foreign imperialism plundered the wealth of Bhaarith, but Bhaarithi never coveted the wealth of any country, Not only did they loot Bhaarith's wealth, but they desecrated the sacred culture of Bhaarith. They created divisions between persons. They set at naught the sanctity of the plighted word. They undermined human relationships. It is because of these outrages that Bhaarith is in a deplorable plight today. Fragmentation of India is a result of its lame foreign conquests because of weakness and shortfall of the spiritual integrity of 'Bharatheeya' [Indians].

The greed of humankind has exacerbated evils like corruption, dishonesty, injustice and falsehood all of which were unknown to Bhaarithheeyas in ancient India.

Today the people have become victims of exotic modes of living and have no respect for the transitional culture.

The *Vedas* also glorified the collective spirit. The ancients attached value to the four goals of life: *Dharma* (Righteousness), *Artha* (Wealth), *Kaama* (Desires) and *Moksha* (Liberation). They followed righteous means to acquire wealth and transformed their desires into yearning for liberation. Thus; they gave primary importance to *Dharma* and *Moksha*. Today people have given up *Dharma* and *Moksha* and are pursuing only *Artha* and *Kaama*.

When one brings at the forefront significance and practice of Vedic knowledge, one will automatically bring about '*Dharma*' as the basis for everything.

The achievements of our ancients and the greatness of their qualities are beyond praise. The educational system should not be subject to changes according to changes in Education Ministers. Education, like Justice, should be free from governmental interference. We must realise that what matters is how far are we truly humane in our lives and how much are we united to prosper. Destroying one another and demeaning one another forsaking selfish successes does not in any way imply we are successful, educated and smart even. It merely reflects our lack of knowledge – true divine knowledge of humanity and true divine knowledge of good health, good life, good wealth, good lifestyle, goodwill, and good loving compassion.

By the Grace of God, knowledge – divine knowledge is a fuller education that children of India in particular require in Universities for establishing integrity, subtle loving compassion amongst higher authorities and diffusion of corruption in India.

The future of India has to be in the POWER OF KNOWLEDGE because only knowledge brings light of hope to a nation fragmented in its core values.

Already India is at the forefront of technology, Science, research, Medicine, and engineering. Such advancement need a further enhancement with the help of spiritual awareness and Vedic wisdom. Bharati India has a great potential of becoming a world class economy if only corruption and discrimination were removed by spiritual awareness and spiritual knowledge of the *Vedas*. In schools and universities, we need to put in place syllabus that teaches our future generation children about patriotism, integrity, sovereignty,

Aum shantih shantih shantih.

Jaya Hind; Jaya BharatiMata; Jaya Satt_Dharma! [Victory to righteousness]

Written and composed by Jyotikar Pattni

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