



ISSN: 2249-894X  
IMPACT FACTOR : 5.7631 (UIF)  
UGC APPROVED JOURNAL NO. 48514  
VOLUME - 8 | ISSUE - 8 | MAY - 2019

## ORIGIN AND ADVANCEMENT OF ANCIENT INDIA VEDIC CULTURE AND ITS RELEVANCE IN THE PRESENT WORLD

**Sanjeev Kumar Mishra**

**Lecturer of History, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India.**

### ABSTRACT:

*The Vedic heritage of India has been grossly miscalculated, misunderstood, and under-appreciated. The light of Vedic knowledge burned brilliantly in Vedic India long before is spread into Iran, the middle-east, and Europe. It appears that Rig Vedic civilization originated in northern India, definitely before 1,900, and probably before 3,000 BC. The Vedic tradition may have originated before 6,500 BC. Passed on from father to son in the unbroken tradition of pundits who recited the Vedic verses, it is still sung by pundits in India today. Imagine if Homeric bards were found today who could still chant the Iliad and Odyssey according to the oral tradition handed down from Homeric times! This would*



*be heralded as a monumental event. Yet the Vedic tradition was possible as ancient to Homer when he lived as Homer is to us today.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Homeric bards, Vedic tradition, light of Vedic knowledge.*

### INTRODUCTION

The Vedic tradition lives in the songs softly chanted by pundits today that may have originated ten thousand or more year ago, or even further remote in time. The Rig Veda and the Vedic literature were preserved by a tradition of chanting, with self-correcting feedback methods, always involving two pundits reciting the verses together. Other methods of self-correction were used, so the authenticity of the tradition is well preserved. The written Veda did not emerge until the Devanagari script was invented, and that was post-Indus-Saraswati civilization. The Vedic civilization, far more ancient than the Greek, spread

from India to Europe, via Anatolia, Thrace, and Greece, and from there into Western Europe. The direction of the flow was from India into Arabia and then to Europe. Evidence shows that the Vedic tradition entered into Europe sometime before the early fourteenth century BC.

The Rig Vedic tradition and its literature almost certainly came into existence sometime long before the earliest civilizations of Mesopotamia, Sumeria, and Egypt. These were relatively late events in the history of civilization and probably owe their existence to the earlier civilization of Vedic India.

The Vedic tradition gives a much deeper meaning to the word "tradition" that has been known before. Nothing in the West approximates it. For thousands of

years, the Vedic tradition expanded, and grew richer in detail, commenting on itself and expanding my knowledge of itself. Each contributor built on what the previous had done, cumulating in a systematic exposition of the structure of pure consciousness. Techniques to gain enlightenment were developed, cultivated, and passed from generation to generation. The techniques sustained the tradition and gave it substance through making the experience available.

Vedic civilization centred around the discovery of pure consciousness and the delineation of its

structure. The Rig Veda and the Vedic literature gave a monumental depiction of this structure of eternal consciousness. These remarkable works give a complete science of the structure of pure knowledge that exists within the self of everyone. It was from this cognition of the structure of Veda and the Vedic literature that the civilization was born.

In the West, by comparison, there was no sustained theme of enlightenment remotely comparable to the Vedic tradition. There was no sustained tradition of knowledge based on the experience of consciousness. The early history of western Europe, including the glory of ancient Greece, are sparks, brilliant though they are, from the great fire of knowledge of Vedic India.

### RATIONAL OF STUDY

Through my work, I want to get into insight how the planet's earliest civilization which leads the world towards not only material but also spiritual progress. The Vedas originated from Sanskrit world Veda which means knowledge. Vedas originated in the ancient Indian subcontinent are a large body of knowledge texts. Vedas are also known as the oldest scripture of Hinduism which is composed in Vedic Sanskrit.

According to the Vedic tradition, the Veda is eternal. It exists within the eternal fabric of consciousness of itself.

- What are Veda and the Vedic literature? What is the Vedic tradition really about?
- What is Vedic cognition and how is it passed on?

Vedas are distinguished from other religious texts as they are called Smriti ("what is remembered") whereas Vedas are known sruti("what is heard"). The Vedas are believed to be revelations seen by ancient sages after intense meditation and these are texts that have been more carefully preserved since ancient times.

The Vedas were part of the curriculum at ancient universities such as Nalanda Taxila and Vikramshila.

- Through this comprehensive study, I would like to shed some light on how much of our ancient literature has been a loss on its long journey from pre-historic period to the present.
- Its relevance in the present world how it can help us attaining betterment of our spiritual educational and materialistic progress while maintaining societal thread which can bring people close.
- This comprehensive study will show how the influence of Vedic Civilization has flowed from west to the continent of Europe. Through this study will shed some light on how science and mathematics originated in India and came to Greece centuries later.

Through this study will endeavour to know how the Vedic tradition originated how it is related to European Civilization.

- As there are many myths regarding Veda and Vedic tradition and its origins. One such thing is that a race of light-skinned Aryan people invaded India from outside, pushing the dark-skinned natives, called Dravidians, into the south. This myth persisted long after an overwhelming body of scientific evidence, and a consensus of archaeologists showed that it is completely untenable.
- In this study we will see, the Veda was first "cognized," not by invading races from outside India, but by a people who had lived continuously in India for thousands of years. Archeologists at Harvard, Oxford, and other top universities in the US and Europe are now widely agreed that there was no invasion of India from outside that displaced the people of the Saraswati and Indus river valleys.
- A comparative study regarding vedic education system and its effect on student and present education system and the difference between the two systems.

Ancient India literature is known as lighthouse for scientific and mathematical discovery. Origin of mathematics especially algebra and geometry, as well as early astronomy and planetary observation were contributions of ancient Indian literature. Medicine in Ayurveda was the first to prescribe herbs for the remedy of disease, surgical instruments for operations, and more.

Zero-based number system (the place-value number system) was first developed in India. They actually originated in India and were passed into Europe through then they derived their name in their west.

In Arabia, mathematics was called the "Indian Art," and the numerals used in Arabia were called "Indian numerals." Arabic scholars knew that mathematics had come into Arabia from India and not vice versa. It was also in India that the counting numbers were first invented. This inspired Albert Einstein to say, "We owe a lot to the Indians, who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made."

In 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, the great Indian astronomer and mathematician Bhaskaracharya calculated the time taken by the earth to orbit the sun to nine Decimal places. Not only this Algebra, trigonometry, and calculus were first set forth in ancient India.

Aryabhata also gives a formula for finding the areas of a triangle and a circle. His main work, the *Aryabhataiya*, contains continued fractions, quadratic equations, sums of power series and a table of sines. Aryabhata gave an accurate approximation for "pi" of up to 3.1416 and was one of the first to use algebra. His most important achievement was the invention of the "0," which enabled the development of the place number system.

Aryabhata also wrote a text on astronomy, the *Siddhanta*, which taught that the apparent rotation of the heavens was due to the rotation of the Earth on its axis. Aryabhata gives the radius of the planetary orbits in terms of the radius of the Earth/Sun orbit as essentially their periods of rotation around the Sun. He believed that the Moon and planets shine by reflected sunlight, and he taught, incredible though it may seem, that the orbits of the planets around the sun are ellipses. This was a thousand hundred years before Copernicus and Kepler came up with the same discovery in Europe. He also correctly explained the causes of the eclipses of the Sun and the Moon and calculated the value for the length of the year at 365 days 6 hours 12 minutes 30 seconds. This is a slight overestimate since the true value is less than 365 days 6 hours. His work, written in 121 stanzas, gives a remarkably accurate view of the structure of the solar system.

The art of navigation was invented 6,000 years ago by navigators of the Indus river. The English word navigation is derived from the Sanskrit word 'Navigation' and the word navy from the Sanskrit 'Nou.' The first known reservoirs and dams for irrigation were also built in India.

Ayur-Veda, the earliest known system of medicine and surgery, was developed in the Vedic period in India. Sushrut, the father of surgery, developed surgical procedures including cesareans, cataract removals, setting fractures, removing urinary stones and even plastic and brain surgery. Over 125 surgical tools are named in the ancient Sushrut medical texts. Anesthesia was also well known. Detailed texts on anatomy, physiology, etiology, embryology, digestion, metabolism, genetics, and immunity date from Vedic times.

## REFERENCES

1. Rigveda: Translated by R.C Mujamdar in 1967
2. Yajurveda: Ralph Thomas Hotchkin Griffith, The Texts of the white Translated with a Popular Commentary (1899).
3. Swami Sunishthananda 2005:- Vedic Concept of Education
4. Yajurveda : Ralph Thomas Hotchkin Griffith, The Texts of the White Translated with a Popular Commentary (1899).
5. Dr. Radha Kumud Mukherji (1960) :- Ancient Indian Education
6. Bhasham, A.L. (2008): The Wonder That Was India
7. Chandras, K.V. (1977) : Four Thousand Years of Indian Education.
8. Griswold, HerveDe Witt (1971): The Religion of the Rigveda
9. Majumdar Ramesh Chandra : Ancient India
10. Mookerji, R.K.: Ancient Indian Education
11. Macdonell A.A.: A History of Sanskrit Literature
12. Nair, Sukumaran V. : Educational Ideas of Syami Vivekananda

- 
13. B.K.Nigam, S.R.Sharma ,1993,History and Problem of Indian Education, Kanishka Publishers, Delhi 110031

LBP PUBLICATION