VEDAS & ITS ORIGIN

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INTRODUCTION

Contents of Vedas are Holy and Pure in nature, character and attributes. There is nothing in contradiction to the laws of nature, reason and truth. There is no mention of any proper name, event or place. Vedas are fountain head of knowledge leading people from darkness to light, irrationality to rationality, irreligion to religion and bondage to salvation. It embodies the teaching on all matters – religious, social, educational, political and moral. Vedas are infinite, eternal, everlasting, treasure of divine knowledge, noble documents, beyond all geographical barriers, basis of all sciences, absolutely compulsory for all human beings irrespective of their sex, caste, creed, country and planet. Vedas contain verses of rare beauty. Wisdom of veda mantras lies in the fact that we should do the veda recital impregnated with sweetness only. It should spring from the heart, only then it will bestow peace. When we do the recital for name sake only and do not reflect deeply upon the essence, then it is of no use to memorise the ved mantras by heart. The recital will be useful only when we try to make our thoughts sublime in conformity with the Vedic wisdom. It should not be a recital by heart, rather it shall be from heart. The veda expresion is aiming towards some higher goal but if our life is being moved in opposite direction, then there will be no benefit accruable from the veda recital (Rigveda 1.164.39). We should assimilate the essence of the ved mantras and translate those in life in such a way that they become quite usual looking, simply a matter of course. Now a days it is very difficult to remember and understand all the mantras, so one may remember a few mantras or at least one Gayatri mantra (Yajurveda 36.3) but with clear cut conception of the meaning of each & every word of mantra. Recital must be with meaning, love, devotion, firm belief, surrender to God and address to God at a centre in the body. Subject matter of the Vedas fall into four categories: JNANA means knowledge of various sciences, KARMA means all sorts of actions, UPASANA means communication with almighty, VIJNANA means metaphysics or realization of all things. I would like to represent the topic under the headings: Origin of universe & Vedas, Characteristics of eternal things, Duration of universe & Vedas, Downfall of Vedas – Reason and remedy, Main teachings of Vedas, Four pillars of vedic philosophy – culture and Scheme of study of Vedas.

ORIGIN OF UNIVERSE AND VEDAS

Vedas reveal that presence of three causes (factors) are necessary for preparation of each and everything. For example in case of pitcher: soil, certain instruments, time, space, knowledge & a potter are necessary – soil being the material cause; instruments; time, space & knowledge the common cause; potter the efficient cause. With the absence of any one of these causes, pitcher cannot be made; similarly, for the creation of universe, three causes are essential, matter being the material cause; God and souls the efficient causes; time, space & knowledge the common cause. In the case of universe, there are two efficient causes, God the primary and souls the secondary cause because after the creation of universe from material cause i.e. matter by God, further progress in the form of cultivation of various crops, canals, industrialisation, population etc. is being made by the souls. This theory of Traitvad/Trinity i.e. necessity of presence of three things is the only true & scientific theory. But ignorant people advocate that God alone is sufficient to create the universe. As potter can't prepare the pitcher without clay and instruments, God can't create universe without matter, time, space knowledge & souls. Omnipotent does not mean that God can create matter and souls if He can then why can't God create another God. All the three Gods, Souls & matter are eternal.

Primordial matter / Neutrino / Parmanu / Prakriti give rise to electrons, protons, neutrons & atoms. God disturbs the balanced state of Primordial matter and the wonderful process begins. Modern science admits that this matter can neither be created nor can be destroyed by any physical or chemical means i.e. it is eternal. Similarly God & souls are also eternal (Rigveda 1.164.20 and 1.190.1-3) God creates innumerable galaxies which consist of planets revolving around the Sun, prepares the seeds of various crops, fruits, vegetables, flowers, creates the air, water, radioactive elements etc. by the union of various atoms. He being the greatest scientist knows the science of union of atoms to create various types of things. Human beings as all know, develop after the union of sperm of male with ovum of female. These sperms and ova are ultimately made up of atoms. As now-a-days test tube babies can be produced by union of sperm and ovum inside the tube provided the various preconditions of uterus are created in the test tube artificially. Similarly, after the creation of universe, human beings, birds, animals, insects were created in artificially prepared sacs. This is called First Creation. Sperms and ova of various species were formed by the union of atoms. One more important fact to be remembered is that the human beings thus produced are in adult forms. Reason being evident i.e. there being no parents to bring them up. Other theories like the theory of evolution of man from monkeys etc. are indeed false. There are so many factors which can easily refute the theory of evolution.

After the creation of planets, air, water, birds, animals & human beings, comes the question of knowledge and language. It is a matter of common observation that a human child if kept away from others, will not be able to learn anything, any language, names of various things, their own introduction etc. Similarly in the beginning, God Himself gives His introduction, guidelines to live happily on planets through mantras (hymns) with their meanings (Yajurveda 40.8). God, being formless, prompts four persons called Rishies to sing these mantras full of true knowledge, guidelines and His own introduction. All sciences have developed later on according to the hints given in these mantras. These mantras (20349 in number) were later on grouped in four Vedas: Rigveda, Yajurveda, Samveda & Atharvaveda containing 10522, 1975, 1875, 5977 Mantras respectively. Rigveda is
still known as the oldest book in the world library. Sanskrit grammar was also later on developed by a Rishi known as Panini Rishi. To learn Sanskrit everybody has to put equal labour. Computer has proved it most scientific & richest language.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ETERNAL THINGS

In His introduction, God has revealed that He is Existent, Conscious, All beauty, Formless, Almighty, Just, Merciful, Unbegotten, Infinite, Unchangeable, Beginningless, Incomparable, Support of all, Lord of all, All prevailing, Omniscient, Controller of all from within, Ever mature & Imperishable (Yajurveda 40.8), (There are innumerable names of God depending upon His innumerable attributes but the primary name of God is AUM as revealed by God Himself through Vedic hymns (Yajurved 40.17). According to Sanskrit grammar each letter, A, U & M represents many attributes of God) Souls are existing, conscious & subtle, Matter being existent & inert. All the three i.e. God, souls and matter being subtle are invisible. God being subtler is omnipresent and pervades matter and souls. Souls take birth according to their deeds. Souls are independent in doing good or bad deeds but dependent in bearing the fruits of their deeds. matter being inert substance only play the role of material cause for creation of universe as clay plays its role in making the pitcher. Reincarnation is proved beyond doubt by living examples of persons who remember their previous births. At the same time one baby gets birth into a king's palace & other into a beggar's hut, this difference in luck can only be explained by good or bad deeds of their previous births.

DURATION OF UNIVERSE AND VEDAS

Each time, the creation lasts for 4320 million years (present creation is about 1,97,294,9104 (1970 million twenty nine lac forty nine thousand one hundred four) years old, modern scientists admit this fact because it takes about two thousand million years for conversion of carbon into diamond. After this it is dissolved and dissolution period also lasts for 4320 million years. Circle is being repeated & there is no beginning & end of this circle i.e. like God this circle is also eternal. In the beginning of each circle knowledge, as mentioned above, is revealed, thus this is also eternal. Vedas are said to be revealed when human being came into existence i.e. 1,960,853,104 i.e. 1960 million eighty five thousand three hundred one hundred four years back.

DOWNFALL OF VEDAS – REASONS AND REMEDY

During the rule of Shri Ramchandra of India i.e. about 10 lakhs years back and during the rule of Yudhishthira i.e. about 5000 years back, Constitution of Aryavarta (now known as India or Bharat) was prepared according to the guidelines given in Vedas. The kings of this country used to rule all over the world. But after the Mahabharata War, (A world war about 5000 yrs. Ago) learned persons & boarding schools in the forests where students used to live & study till the completion of their education, run by selfless vedic scholars separately for boys & girls i.e. gurukul system of education slowly & slowly came to an end and people of this country became ignorant while people of other countries went on progressing. Place of vedas was taken by books containing concocted stories, favouring idol worship & worship of greatmen as God.

This happened about three thousand years back with the worship of Buddha. Later on other sects i.e. Hindu, Christians, Muslims, Sikhs also came into being, the Hindu about 2500 year ago, Christianity about 2000 year back, Muslim about 1400 years, Sikh about 500 years ago. During this period so many other sects also started. The same is true with Puran, Bible, Quran etc. Hindu religion has many branches like Vammaragi, Neo-Vedant etc., similarly others. People forgot the true Vedic religion and started giving importance to the rules, regulations, dress & signs laid down by these sects.

Vedic Scholar in a World Congress of 1000 religions:

For illustrations if an Emperor were to make a list of all the different religions extant in the world those would not be less than one thousand but the chief among them are: Vammaragi, Shaiva, Neo-vedant, Jain, Christian, Mohammadan (Muslim), Vaishnav, Kabir, Nanak (Sikh); a few of them are now a days grouped into one heading – Hindu religion. If he should now call a world congress on various religions and ask a Vama-Margi “Revered Sir! I never had a predecessor before, not embrace any religion yet, tell me, which you think is the best religion in the world, so that I should embrace it.”

Vam-margi: Sir, our religion is the best. It guarantees salvation by free use of wine & woman.

Emperor: What do you think of the remaining nine hundred and ninety-nine?

Vam-margi: They are all false and lead their followers to hell. It is also written “There is no religion higher than the Vama Marg.”

Emperor: What is your religion?

Vam-margi: It consists in believing in the Goddess Bhagvati, in using five things beginning with the letter ‘M’, such as Mans (meat), Madira (wine), meen (fish), Mudra (Wealth) & maithun (sex) ; and holding the 64 Tantras, such as Rudrayamal, etc., as sacred books. If you want to be saved, embrace our faith and become our disciple.

Emperor: Alright, I will see other holy men as well and make inquiries about their religion. I will, afterwards, embrace the religion in which I have the greatest faith and for which I feel the greatest love.

Vam-margi: O my good man! Why are you in doubt? These people will mislead and ensnare you into their nets. Don’t go to any other religionist, take refuge in our faith or you will repent. Mark you! Our faith holds out the prospect of enjoyment of sensual pleasures as well as the hope of salvation by sacrificing animals.

Emperor: Well, anyhow I will inquire into this question (from others). He, then, went to a Shivite and put him the same question as he had done to the Vama Margi who gave him the same sort of answer as latter had done, with this addition that, without believing in Shiva, wearing seeds of the tree Rudraksha and smearing the body with ashes and worshipping phallic, no one could be saved. He left the Shivite and went to a Neo-Vedantist and addressed him thus, “Tell me, O Revered Sir! what is your Dharma?”
Neo-Vedantist: We the followers of Aadi Shankracharya, do not believe in religion or irreligion, idol worship & sacrificing animals. We believe ourselves to be God; we cannot be affected by religion or irreligion. The whole world is an illusion. Shouldst thou desire to be possessed of true wisdom and pure consciousness, get it out of thy mind that thou art soul, believe thyself to be Brahma (God) and thou shalt be saved for ever.

Emperor: If you are Brahma (God), Who is Eternally-free, why don't you possess the nature, attributes and characteristics of Brahma, and why are you imprisoned in this (human) body?

Neo-Vedantist: Thou sees the body while I don't. This is because thou are in ignorance. We see nothing but Brahma.

Emperor: Who are you that sees, and whom do you see?

Neo-Vedantist: It is Brahma that sees and Brahma sees Brahma.

Emperor: Are there two Brahas then?

Neo-Vedantist: No, Brahma sees His Ownself.

Emperor: Can anyone stand on his own shoulders? There is no sense in what you say. You talk like a mad man but Shankracharya—the founder of your sect did a good job by proving the eternity of God & refuting the idol worship & sacrificing animals in the name of Vedas.

Emperor then, went further and inquired from Jainees what they thought was the true religion. They answered in the same fashion as the others had done but with this addition that “All other religions but the Jain, are false. There is no eternal God, the Maker of this world. The world has been eternally existing as it is and will continue to exist for ever. Come, become our disciple, since, we are good in all respects, and all our doctrines are true. All faiths except the Jain are false.” Then emperor proceeded further and put the same question to a Christian as he had done to others, who answered him in the same strain as the Vama Margi, but with this addition that “All men are sinners, and cannot be freed themselves from sins by their own efforts. None can be saved until he has been purified through faith in Christ who revealed his infinite mercy by sacrificing his life by way of atonement for the sins of mankind. Come and become a Christian.” Having heard this, emperor went to a Moulvi (Muhammadan priest) and asked him the same question. He gave him the same answer as others had done, with this addition that “No one could obtain salvation without believing in Allah God, His prophet Mohammad and the Holy Qoran. Whoever refused to believe in this religion would go to hell. He was an infidel and deserved to be put to the sword.” He, then went to a Vaishnavite and had the same sort of conversation with him who also added that even Yamraj (king of death) “trembles with fear at the sight of our tilak and chhip i.e. mark on the forehead and marks of having been branded with red hot iron. The emperor thought in his mind: “Well, if these marks had no terror for mosquitoes, police constables, thieves and robbers, and one’s enemies, why should-the messengers of death fear them?” As the emperor went further he found that every religionist called his own religion the best and the truest. One said that his religious teacher Kabir was the true prophet, another said our Guru Nanak was the greatest teacher, another said that Ballabh was the greatest among men, he was God incarnate whilst others said the same of Sahjanand and Madhva, etc. Having questioned all those thousand religionists who called their own religion the best and the truest, and found that they were all opposed to each other, he came to the conclusion that there were 999 witnesses against everyone of them. They were no better than the shopkeepers. When he met a true teacher i.e. a person well versed in Vedas and yoga and possess self control, contentment and tranquility, he addressed him thus, “O Revered Sir! My mind is greatly perplexed by the wrangling of these various sects. Should I become the follower of one of these, I shall make the remaining 999 my enemies. How can one be happy who has 999 enemies and only one friend? Teach me, Sir, what should I accept.”

The true teacher - All these religions are the products of ignorance. They are the enemies of knowledge as they mislead the ignorant; the foolish and the unenlightened get ensnared into their nets and thereby gain their selfish ends; these poor, ignorant people miss the object of their lives and waste them. In whatever they agree with each other, know that to be the Vedic religion worthy of being accepted, but in whatever they all disagree, know that to be wrong, false, sinfull and unacceptable.

Emperor: How am I to test what you say?

The true teacher - You go and ask them all the following questions, they will be unanimous in their answers.

Thereupon the emperor after knowing the truth went to the world congress of 1,000 religionists and said with a loud voice, “All you people! Lend me your ears. Tell me, whether it is religion (right) to speak the truth or otherwise?” They all answered with one voice, “It is right religion to speak the truth and wrong irreligion to tell a lie.” Similarly, on being questioned they declared unanimously that Dharma (true religion) consisted in acquiring knowledge, controlling sensual passions, marrying in the full bloom of life, associating with the good, cultivating active habits and being honest in dealings with others whilst it was irreligion to remain ignorant, become a slave of the senses, commit adultery, keep bad company, be dishonest in dealings, practise fraud and hypocrisy, bear maleice and do harm to others. Thereupon the emperor asked them, “Why don’t you agree in this manner and advance the cause of true religion and eradicate false religions?” They replied, “Should we do so, who will care for us. Our disciples will leave us, won’t obey us, we shall lose our livelihood. We are now enjoying ourselves, all this enjoyment will be lost to us, therefore even when we know what true religion is, we continue to teach our false, sectarian religions and refuse to abjure falsehood and embrace the true religion, acting on the proverb ‘Cheat the world with your cunning and enjoy yourself. Look here! it is like this. No one in this world gives anything to a man who is honest and true, nor does anybody care for him. But he that resorted to hypocrisy and fraud lives in plenty.”

Emperor: Why does not the king of your respective country punish you for swindling others by means of fraudulent practices?

Representative of all the religions: we have made even the king our disciple. So you see, our arrangements are perfect. None shall escape us.
Emperor: You rob others through fraud and thereby injure them. What answer will you give to your God? You will undoubtedly fall into an awful hell. You commit such sins for enjoying yourselves for this short span of (human) life. Why can't you give up these frauds?

Representative: When that happens we shall see what hell we fall into or what punishment God inflicts on us, but now we enjoy ourselves. Why should the king punish us when we do not take anything from others by force, the people give us wealth of their own free will.

Emperor: You are just as punishable as a man who robs a child by coaxing him, for it is said, "He who is ignorant is a child, he who is wise is called a father or an old man." Whosoever is learned and wise does not fall into your snares but the ignorant who are like children fall an easy prey to your trickery and fraud. You ought to be punished by law for defrauding them.

Representative: Who can punish us when both the ruler and the ruled are our followers. When our profession is made punishable by law, we will change our programme, and make a different one.

Emperor: You now sit idle and swindle others, would it not be to your good as well as to that of the house-holders if you would pass your time in acquiring knowledge and teaching their children?

Representative: Why should we give up life-long pleasures, pass our childhood and youth in acquiring knowledge and the rest of our lives in teaching and preaching? What shall we gain by it? We can get a lot of money without doing anything, live in ease and comfort and enjoy ourselves. why should we give up this easy life?

Emperor: But it has awful consequences. You afflicted with terrible diseases, die young, are looked down by the wise and yet you don't understand.

Representative: Sir, you don't understand the world. Nothing can be done without money, no religion can exist without money, no good works can be performed without money and no salvation obtained without money. He who has no money always talks of money, looks at the good things of (this world) with avidity and sighs. His imaginatin runs in this strain: Alas! I have no money, I wish I had money to enjoy all these good things. All men hear of the Indivisible, All powerful Being described as possessed of powers, but no one has seen Him. On the other hand, the money is real and visible God, hence it is that everyone is engaged in the pursuit of making money since all things can be accomplished with the help of money.

Emperor: At last, the cat is out of the bag and we know you in your true colours. All this fraud that you have set up is for your selfish gain, but it ruins, the world. Just as the preaching of truth benefits the world, so does the teaching of untruth injures it. When what you want is only wealth, why don't you engage yourselves in trade and make your pile.

Representative: But, then, we shall have to work hard and run some risks of loss as well while now in our present trade it is all profit and no loss.

Emperor: What do these people give you all this money for?

Representative: For acquiring virtue (dharma), entering heaven and attaining salvation.

Emperor: When you are not yourselves saved, nor know the nature of salvation nor the way to attain it, what would they get who serve you?

Representative: Is the reward for service ever to be got in this world? No, Sir! They are compensated for it (in the next world). Their reward will be commensurate with their services (to us) here.

Emperor: Whether they will get anything in return for their services or not (is rather doubtful), what I should like to know is what will you, who accept their services (and money, etc.) get hell or something else?

Representative: We devote ourselves to prayers, we shall gain happiness in consequence thereof.

Emperor: All your prayers are for gold which will all be left here after death, and even the lump of flesh (i.e., human bodies) which you nourish so fondly will be cremated or buried and reduced to ashes and remain here. Had you worshiped God (instead of Mammon) your hearts would have been pure.

Representative: Are we impure, then?

Emperor: Your hearts are very impure, indeed.

Representative: How do you know that?

Emperor: From your conduct and dealings (with others).

Representative: The conduct of great men is like the teeth of an elephant. He has one set of teeth to eat with whilst another set (trunks) for show. In like manner, we are pure at heart but outwardly we resort to these (fraudulent) practices by way of division.

Emperor: Had you been pure at heart, you would have been upright in dealings with others. But you are not so, hence you have a very dirty interior.

Representative: We may be anything but our followers at least are good.

Emperor: Like masters, like pupils.

Representative: There can never be one religion for all mankind, for people differ so much in their nature, temperaments and characteristics.

Emperor: If all were educated alike in childhood and would practise dharma (righteousness) such as truthfulness in speech, and ahor adharma (unrighteousness) such as untruthfulness in speech, they would all certainly be of one religion. It is true though that there will always be two kinds of men, viz., righteous and unrighteous. But that does not matter. As long as the righteous outnumber the unrighteous, there is happiness in the world, but when the unrighteous preponderate, suffering and misery increase. Were all good and learned men to teach alike, there will be one religion among all men in no time.

Representative: It is the kalíyuga (Iron age) now. Don't you expect things of the Satyuga (Golden age) in this age.

Emperor: Kaliyuga is the name of a period of time. Time is action-less. It cannot be a factor in the causation of righteousness or unrighteousness. You yourselves are the incarnations of Kaliyuga. Virtue and vice in men are not natural but the result of the influence of association (education, and environment, etc.). Having said this, he went to the true
teacher and addressed him thus: “O Revered Sir! You have, indeed, saved me; otherwise I would have fallen into the snares of one of these sects and ruined myself. Now I will expose the frauds of these hypocrisies and preach the true religion of the Vedas.”

The true teacher: This is indeed the duty of all men, especially of learned men and leaders, to teach all men how to defend truth and refute untruth and thus, by the preaching of truth, promote public good. To know the secrets of God, Soul, Universe, Life, Success, Politics, Science, Salvation, Reincarnation, Meditation, Yoga, Religion etc. all should read Vedas. To understand and know the essence of vedas, study of ‘Introduction to Vedas’ i.e. ‘Rigvedadi Bhashya Bhumika’ and Light of Truth i.e. ‘Satyarth Prakash’ by Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati is also very helpful and must.

MAIN TEACHINGS OF VEDAS

Maharishi Dayanand has summarized the teaching of Vedas in ten principles i.e.

1. God is the primary source of true knowledge and of all that is known by its means.
2. God is Existent, Conscious, Blissful, Formless, Almighty, Just, Merciful, Unbegotten, Infinite, Unchangeable, Beginningless, Incomparable, Support of all, Lord of all, All pervading, Omiscient, Controller of all from within, Ever mature, Imperishable, Fearless, Eternal, Holy and Creator of Universe. To Him alone is worship due.
3. The Vedas are the scriptures of all true knowledge. It is the paramount duty of all men & women to read them to teach them (others) and to hear them read to recite them (others)
4. All persons should be ever ready to accept truth and renounce untruth.
5. All acts should be performed in conformity to Dharma i.e. after due consideration of right and wrong.
6. The prime object of every human being is to do good to the world i.e. to uplift physical, spiritual and social standards of all men and women.
7. All should be treated with love, justice, righteousness and due regard to their merits.
8. Ignorance should be dispelled and knowledge be disseminated.
9. No one should remain content with his or her own well-being but on the contrary should regard his or her well-being in consonance with the well-being of others.
10. In matter affecting well-being of the society an individual should subordinate his or her personal liking while in matters affecting him or her alone he or she could enjoy freedom of action.

Maharishi Patanjali has also summarized the teachings of Vedas in ten principles: (i) non-violence (ii) truth (iii) abstention from theft and injustice (iv) celibacy (v) non-holding (vi) purification of body, mind and soul (vii) contentment (viii) tolerance (ix) introspection (x) firm belief in God.

Maharishi Manu has summarized the teachings of Vedas under the heading of ten characteristics of Dharma: (i) patience (ii) forgiveness (iii) abstinence from sinful thoughts (iv) abstention from theft or fraud (v) physical and mental purity by good diet, exercise and thoughts (vi) control on senses (vii) development of intellect by good vegetarian diet and pranayam (viii) acquisition of knowledge by study of vedas (ix) truthfulness in thought, word and deed (x) abstinence from anger. (Manu 6.92)

FOUR PILLARS OF VEDIC PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURE

a) Three eternals i.e. theory of trinity: As already mentioned God, souls and Prakriti / Parmanu / Primald mer are eternal. God is existent, conscious blissful. Souls are existent, conscious and have 24 types of powers or inherent qualities i.e. (i) strength (ii) energy (iii) attraction (iv) suggestion (v) motion (vi) intimidation (vii) analytic power (viii) skill (ix) courage (x) memory (xi) discerine (xii) desire (xiii) love (xiv) hatred (xv) association (xvi) dissolution (xvii) dividing power (xviii) combining power (xix) power of sight (xx) hearing (xxi) touch (xxii) taste (xxiii) smell (xxiv) knowledge, Prakriti (Parmanu) particles satv, rajas and tamas are existent & inert. The true knowledge of all the three eternal things can only be obtained from Vedas. Without this, ignorance, pains and vicious circle of birth & rebirth cannot come to an end.

It should also be understood that there are two entities one the ‘pervader’ and the other the ‘post pervader’. God is the post-pervader, pervading the souls and matter. The word advait (Non-duality) is an adjective which qualifies the noun ‘Brahma’. It differentiates ‘Brahma’ from innumerable souls and matter particles. It elucidates that there is one God and the only one God. It does not negate the existence of others. Brahman & Upnishadas are the expositions of the Ved-Manstras. The relationship among the eternal things is - attainable - preserver - means i.e. Sadhya - Sadhak - Sadhan.

b) Eight limbs of yoga: Maharishi Patanjali has described this on the basis of the Vedas i.e. (1) Five yamas: (i) Ahimsa (Non-violence) (ii) Satya (Truth) (iii) Asteya (Abstention from theft) (iv) Brahcharya (Celibacy) (v) Aparigraha (Renunciation or non holding) (2) Five niyamas: (i) Purification of body, mind and environment (ii) Satisfaction (iii) Penance (iv) Self-study (Swadhyayya) (v) Ishwar pranidhan (Surrender to God) (3) Asana (Comfortable sitting posture for meditation) (4) Pranayam (Control on breath and strengthening of ten vital forces). Ten vital forces are (i) Pran (expiratory force) (ii) Apan (inspiratory force) (iii) Samana (solar - sympathetic force) (iv) Udana (glosso-pharyngeal force) (v) Vyana (motor - muscular force) (vi) Naga (belching power) (vii) Kurum (twinkling power) (viii) Krinkal (hunger) (ix) Devdutta (yawning force) (x) Dhanajja (decomposing force). By doing regular pranayam we can strengthen all these forces and keep ourselves free from all types of diseases, sharpen our mind, enjoy a long life, control our senses, purify our soul & increase concentration. There are mainly four types of pranayam but I would like to mention one Bahya Pranayam i.e. expiratory pranayam - expire out your breath forcibly and hold it outside as long as possible by drawing up the pelvic viscera. When discomfort is felt the air should be gently inspired. This process should be repeated according to one’s desire and strength. While practising pranayam AUM should be contemplated, stomach should be empty and air
should be fresh. This is very important science in Vedas. (5) Pratiyaparh (Control of senses) (6) Dharita (retention i.e. practice of concentrating the mind at one spot in the body). (7) Dhyana (meditation i.e. pondering on qualities and divine visions of God). (8) Samadhi (trance i.e. realization of knowledge, power & bliss of God) – (Yogodharana 2.29-32).

By repeatedly getting into Samadhi (trance) we can nullify all attachments and malice etc. i.e. the rites of Avidya (ignorance) accumulated on mind during continuous cycle of births and re-births by bringing them to the state of burnt-seed form and attain the state of salvation (Yajurveda 40.14 and Rigveda 7.59.12). Salvation period according to Vedas is 3110,40,00,00,00,000 i.e. neel 10 kharb 40 arav equivalent to thirty six thousand time of sustenance and dissolution period of universe i.e. (4320 + 4320) x 36,000 million also known as Prantikal (Mundak Upnishad). During salvation the soul remain free from all type of pains and enjoy complete freedom & peace for such a long period. All world leaders and public have completely forgotten salvation – their chief aim of life. If they realize this truth and try sincerely to gain it, world will become heaven and this is what God expects from us. This is not only our aim but also our paramount duty to achieve salvation. During salvation souls do not merge into God, they take rebirth after enjoying such a long period of bliss. Merging would mean death of eternal soul (Rigveda 1.24.1).

c) Ashram and Caste System of human life: To lead a happy - prosperous life and to attain the aim of salvation the average hundred years age of human life is divided into four parts i.e., Brahmacari Ashram i.e. Student life, Graha Ashram i.e. married life, Vanaprasth Ashram i.e. meditation & social service life, Sanyas Ashram i.e. Meditation and preaching life. Each ashram equivalent to approximately twenty five years. Depending upon the interest, sanskar and ability one may directly adopt the Sanyas Ashram after completing study of Vedas & devote rest of life in meditation and preaching of Vedas. For smooth functioning of human life all men and women are divided into four classes / varanas / sections according to their qualification, accomplishments and character in the twenty fifth year for males and the sixteenth years for females, they should marry in their own class. All classes should live in perfect harmony, accordingly there are four classes: Brahmans i.e. Vedic scholars, Khshatriyas i.e. military and para military persons, Vaishyas i.e. businessmen and traders, Shudras i.e. servants who have not acquired any proficiency in any field (Manu 6.833 and 3.77, Atharva 11.5.19, Yajurveda 31.11 & 20.24).

d) Five daily duties / five mahayajna & Sixteen Sanskaras (Rigveda 10.4.4.6): Five daily duties are Brahmyajna i.e. glorification prayer and communion with God by reciting Aum and vedic mantras with their meaning, Deviyajna i.e. Haven or Agnihotra i.e. a process of purification of atmosphere by adding pure cow’s butter and some dry medicinal plants into the fire which is kindled in a pyramid shaped copper pot which gives the temperature from 200-500°C with this the surrounding air becomes hot and it mechanically drives away the foul air, kills many types of bacteria and viruses causing various types of diseases, controls the pollution, global warming & acidic rain, gives healthy environment, fertile soil and pure mind, Balivadshdev-Yajna i.e. to take care of all types creatures, birds and animals, Atithi yajna i.e. to serve the Vedic scholars and saints, pitiyajna i.e. to serve the elders and parents.

Sixteen Sanskaras: Before conception to death all should performed sixteen types of prayers, Vedic rituals & yajna for the development of good, healthy, noble and learned human being. These sixteen sanskaras are (i) Garbhadhana sanskar before conception of child (ii) Punsvan sanskar during second month of pregnancy (iii) Samapantyvan sanskar during fourth month of pregnancy (iv) Jatkrarma sanskar after birth of child (v) Nishkram sanskar after seven days after birth (vi) Nishkram sanskar after three months (vii) Annprashan sanskar after six months (viii) Chaturkram sanskar or Mundan sanskar after one year (ix) Karnoedh sanskar after five years (x) Lpaa sanskar after seven years (xi) Vedarambh sanskar after eight years (xii) Samavartan sanskar after completion of study of Vedas (xiii) Marriage sanskar after twenty five years (xiv) Vanprisha sanskar after fifty years (xv) Sanyas sanskar after seventy five years (xvi) Anteshti sanskar after death (Sanskar Vidhi by Maharishi Dayanand).

SCHEME OF STUDY OF VEDAS

To know the real meaning of vedic mantras and realize aim of life the scheme of studies throughout the world should comprise:

a. For 6 years (8-14 years age) Phonetics by Panine grammar- Ashthadyaya, Dhatupath, Ganpath, Undakodish and Mahabhashya, Nirukat, Nighantu, Pingla poetry.

b. For 5 years (15-19 years) Ramayan, Mahabhart, Manusamriti, Vidurni.

c. For 4 years (20-23 year age) 11-upnishdas, 6 Philosophy books, Satyarth Prakash.

d. For 4 years (24-27 year age) Introduction to Vedas and study of four Vedas.

e. For 3 year (28-30 year age) Study of up-Vedas i.e. Ayurveda, Dhanurveda, Gandharavaveda depending upon the interest of the students.

This way at the age 26-30 years child become great scholar and intellectual. By the Modern system and syllabus of education child becomes nothing but a money making machine. About 5000 year back this system of education through GuruKuls was prevailing throughout the world. As already mentioned due to world war Mahabharata, this system of education came to an end. In India a few Vedic organizations had re-established this true ancient system of education.

Lastly, I conclude this topic of Vedas and its Origin in one sentence i.e. Vedas are true everlasting Constitution of mankind, being eternal there is indeed no Origin of Vedas. Prof. Emerson has rightly said Vedas exalt our life. All Philosophies and Science of Europe appear insignificant before Vedas. All men should return to Vedas.

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