

# Idol Worship: Root Cause of Social Ills

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Hindus are primarily God fearing, still rampant corruption increases day by day. Idol worship appears to be the root cause of this irony. Maharshi Dayanand spend his whole life fighting against idol worship. For this cause, he had to tolerate violence and physical injuries as well. Even then, till the end of his life he decreed against idol worship, it being anti-Vedas.

## **Gods description in Vedas**

All over Vedas God has been described an omnipresent; present here, there and everywhere. In some of verses cited below and numerous other Vaidik hymns, God has never been assigned physical attributes or qualities.

*Eesha vaasyam-idam sarvam yat-kiñcha jagatyañ jagat Yajurveda 40.1*

In this universe, God pervades and covers whatever exists, from very small microscopic entities to extremely large celestial bodies.

*Hiranya garbhaḥ samarttataagre bhootasya jaataḥ patir-ek aaseet Yajurveda 13.4*

This is well known that he, the only source of the entire creation, equally present everywhere, lord of all beings, existed before anything else.

*Na tasya pratimaa asti yasya naam mahadyashaḥ Yajurveda 32.3*

Righteous action is whose true worship, that God can't be compared to any image, idol or physical entity.

Normally when people are in front of their Idol, they act righteously like speaking truth, being humble, honest etc. However, as soon as they move away from the Idol the abominable behavior starts. Since he is considering God limited to the temple, as soon as the Idol is out of sight, he has no problem with vicious deeds. Even if the conscience challenges, he will make an offering in the temple later and then continue on with life. On the contrary, someone who realizes God to be omnipresent, will always find God accompanying him guiding him towards truth and that feeling along will quench any allurements towards actions for quick and non-virtuous gains.

When we delve deeper, first verse from R̥igveda's Puruṣha Sukta draws our attention

*Sahasra sheerṣhaa puruṣhaḥ sahasraakṣhaḥ sahasrapaat Rigveda 10.90.1*

This entity with numerous heads, numerous eyes, numerous legs and hands, is not someone sitting in heaven. He is actually God in the form of this entire universe. Heads of all living beings are his heads, their eyes his eyes and there limbs his limbs. View that all pervading God as present in every being. In your dealings with other being, view it as the God within you is interacting with the God in them. Malicious behavior, lies, oppression, deceiving etc. do not have any place in an interaction where God is involved. Tendency to commit sin will be automatically suppressed. And the Vaidik vision of the “Whole Universe Becoming Noble” will become a reality.