

HOLY BOOK OF HINDU RELIGION



- **Genesis of Hinduism**
- **Basic Tenets of Hinduism**
- **Smriti Sastra**
 - Frequently asked questions
- **Hinduism & Veda Hymns**
- **Krishna & Gita Hymns**
- **Daily Prayer**
 - Must for a Hindu
- **Bhajan – Lord's praise**
- **Heaven & Hell**
- **Idol Worship**
- **Caste System**
- **Manu Smriti**
- **Upanisads**
- **Bhagavan Mahavir**
- **Sankaracharya**
- **Swami Vivekananda's Philosophy**



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Genesis of Hindu Religion ● The Basic Tenets of Hindu Religion
● Smriti Sastra – Frequently asked questions ● The Vedic Religion of Hinduism & Veda Hymns ● Lord Krishna and The Bhagavad Gita & Gita Hymns ● Daily Prayer – Must for a Hindu ● Bhajan—Chanting of Lord's praise ● Heaven & Hell ● Idol Worship ● Caste System ● Manu Smriti ● Upanisads ● Vishnu's ten incarnations ● Bhagavan Mahavir ● Sankaracharya ● Hindu Monk Swami Vivekananda & His philosophy ● Meaning of important Hindu words

Hindu Religious & Charitable Trust

He that sent me is with me, the Ishwar has not left me to fight it alone.
- Veda

Yield not is unmanliness. Cast off the mean faint heartedness and arise.
Kill your enemies. This is dharma.

– Gita

The cow never tells a lie, and the stone never steals, but nevertheless,
the cow remains a cow and the stone a stone. Man steals and man tells
lies but it is man that becomes a Devta i.e. God Without enjoyment,
renunciation can never come; first enjoy and then you can renounce.

- UPANISAD

Thou art a householder; if anyone smites thy on thy cheek, and thou dost
not return him an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, thou wilt verily be a
sinner – Manu, VIII, 350

Heroes only enjoy the world. Show your heroism; apply, according to cir-
cumstances, the fourfold political maxims of conciliation, bribery, sowing
dissensions and open war to win over your adversary. Thus when you win
the adversary, you will be Dharmike (rightous).

- Smriti Sastra

Vira, the Sanskrit word for “heroic”, is the origin of our word “virtue”, be-
cause in ancient times the best fighter was regarded as the most virtuous
man.

- Swami Vivekananda

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Author's Note

The Holy Book of Hindu Religion is a glimpse from the Hindu scriptures and is culled from the enormous volume of Hindu literature. Select readings from the scriptures a devout Hindu needs for his daily prayers to Ishwara have been included in this volume. If anyone can contribute original and authentic manuscript connected with the Hindu Religion, he may give it to the publisher for possible accommodation in the next editions.

Sanatana Dharma is a gift of Ishwara to humanity through the revelations of many messiahs (Rishies) and savants (Munis). While all other religions are surviving on the charisma of one man, single doctrine of enhancing supporters base and does not recognize other spiritual paths, Hinduism has a liberal tradition. It gives its members the full freedom to worship as they wish without any interference from pseudo religious bigots. The author has only taken dictation from Him for the benefit of the mankind and takes no credit whatsoever for writing or editing *The Holy Book of Hindu Religion*.

May Ishwara bless the readers of this book and confer on them bliss and success in life.

Prof Dr. Satyajit Chakrabarti
Trustee
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GENESIS OF HINDU RELIGION

The essence of Hinduism as a religion is about 20,000¹ years old. It is the first religion of human civilization.

Three main prophets² who propounded the *ISHWARA*'s sermons to the world, were *BRAMHA*, who hailed from central India, *BISHNU* (*also known as Narayan for Lord Venkateshwara or Lord Balaji*) *came from South India* and *MAHESWARA* (*He is also called Shiva / Rudra/S Sankara who hailed from Kashmir i.e. North India*).

These *TRIAD* revelations were so powerful and their contribution was so vast that their messages influenced the Indian subcontinent and many other countries. Even in those ancient days when communication in any form was very poor, their message travelled far and wide and was established as *Sanatana Dharma*.

These three messiahs are called *Adi-Devatas* and they are the three main founders of the *Sanatana Dharma* later known as Hindu religion. They revealed Vedas.

Hinduism is not based on a single book; nor is its origin attributed to any human being. The Hindus call the *VEDAS* as *APOURUSHEYAM* - which means not authored by *PURUSA* or *MAN*, man being merely an instrument of God to spread his words.

Hinduism is a name given by central Asians to describe the civilization on the eastern bank of the river Sindhu. They pronounced 'S' as 'H' and described the residents of the eastern bank of the river Sindhu as Hindus. They invaded India, became its rulers and the name given by them became popular. Around 4500 B.C. to 3500 B.C. north western border was attacked by the horse mounted invaders. Gradually they invaded almost whole of India.

The original name of the Hindu religion was *SANATANA DHARMA* and Vedic religion is its principal philosophy. The people who came to India as invaders and rulers gradually intermingled with the local population and adopted the basics of the Hindu philosophy and lost their foreign identity.

The God of the Hindus is known as *Ishwara*. *Ishwara* is the one supreme entity. He is absolute, all pervasive and eternal. He has no beginning and no end. He has no form, colour or description. He is the creator, the cause of all causes. He is all powerful and does not require any subordinates to carry out his desire.

Ishwara sends messiahs (*Devatas*) to various regions of the earth in human form to benefit His creation as a reflection of His greatness. These messiahs are called *Devatas* in some of the Indian languages.

Devotees pray to *Ishwara* and celebrate the life, deeds and teachings of *Devatas* in temples. *Devatas* are essentially human beings with supernatural power. Their manifestations, however, were bound by their historical period, social settings and geographical location.

Ordinary human beings go to the idol of *Devata* in temples. An idol is not only an object of worship by the devotee, it becomes the centre of concentration through intense prayers to *ISHWARA*.

One who has read and grasped the Vedas i.e. one who is knowledgeable in the inner meaning of religious philosophy, has no need to worship an idol. He/she has already realized the true nature of *Ishwara* and the futility of idol worship.

Ishwara alone deserves our prayer. *Ishwara* is omnipresent, omnipotent and not bound by boundaries of the earth or the solar system. All human beings come with to Him their prayers and their rituals.

The Hindus during the early history of *Sanatana Dharma*, were monotheists and believed in one *Ishwara*. Hindus learnt idol worship from the dazzling urban civilization of Harappa and Mohenjodaro. The residents of Mohenjodaro and Harappa were worshippers of the Sun-God, Lord Shiva-linga, Mother Goddesses and some animal totems etc.

This idol worship was the resultant influence of Mesopotamian (Egyptian) and Sumerian (Persian) civilizations. During that period “Cuneiform” was used) as the script for communication in Harappa and Mohenjodaro as well as in Mesopotamia (Egypt. The Harappan and Mohenjodaro civilizations flourished prior to 3430 B.C. Hindu scripture records that in the year 3430 B.C. there was a huge undersea earthquake which created

very high sea waves and the high water level flooded the river Sindhu and its embankments. Harappa, Mohenjodaro etc. were covered with mud. When the water receded Men, animals and vegetation perished almost instantly and were buried under thick layers of mud.

The urban civilization of Harappa and Mohenjodaro used plenty of timber for construction and furniture. Wood was used in a big way for building & maintaining the civilization. It caused deforestation. Deforestation altering the ecological balance, nature's curse, contributed to the extinction of the Harappan and Mohenjodaro civilizations.

Idol worship is actually the hero worship of *Devatas*/Messiahs. *Devatas* were essentially human beings and that is why sometimes the *Devata* of one region is not worshipped in other regions. However, Ishwara accepts all the prayers, be those in any manner or in any name.

During the early Rik Vedic period the practice of caste system, child marriage or Sati Daha were unknown, though division of labour was in vogue. One member of a family may be teaching and preaching, another could be engaged in warfare, at the same time the third from the same family may be an artisan. Inter-marriage and interchange of profession were normally accepted in the society.

Women were equally involved in Vedic learning. Apala, Ghosa, Viswabara, Lopamudra, Bisakha and others were famous erudite ladies of the early Vedic period. Women had their own choice and say in the matter of marriage. Women also learnt the technique of weaponry and took part in warfare. One famous woman General of warfare was Mudgalani. Ladies used to be partners of their husbands in all walks of life.

Primarily the Hindus are monotheist & believe in an all-powerful *Ishwara*. *ISHWARA* is also known as *Devathey*, *Devadu*, *Ishwaran*, *Kadavul*, *Iraivan*. The *Devatas* are respected as human heroes and heroines with superhuman abilities, as though possessed of some of the qualities of *Ishwara*.

Notes :-

- 1) The great historian and author Kalkut, in his historical treatise PRITHA published by Mandal Book House, 78/1, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Kolkata - 700 009, INDIA, wrote in page 26 that historically when Kaliyug was 3179 years old, Indian year counting Sakabdah, i.e., year counting from the time of King Kaniska started. In the year A.D. 2005 it is 1927 Sakabdah. Thus as on date age of Kaliyug is approximately 5106 (3179+1927) years, say 5000 years. We know Satayug commenced when Bramha, Bishnu and Maheswara got revelation and propounded Sanatana Dharma. There are four Yugs which go on cyclically in human evolution. They are Satyayug, Tretayug Draparyug and Kaliyug. Each yug having an approximate time period of 5000 years. Thus Sanatana Dharma is existing approximately for little over 20,000 years. We are at the end of the Kaliyug and Hindus can reasonably expect the advancement of Satyayug. In Satyayug all human beings are provided with basic necessities of life i.e., food, shelter and clothing. All men and women remain truthful in all their activities, they have positive attitude. All people live in harmony with mutual respect and love for each other.
- 2) Some Hindu philosopher saint strongly believe that Bramha, Bishnu and Maheswara are three different manifestations of the same formless Ishwara.

THE BASIC TENETS OF HINDUISM

1. Acquire knowledge and do not be guilty of innocence. One only has the right to perform one's task to the best of his/her abilities giving up attachment and concern, the result will be proportionate to the effort and circumstances.
2. Charity should be a gift, without expectation of any return. It should be given at the right time, place and to a worthy person or worthy cause.
3. The human body is like a boat, the first and foremost use of which is to carry one, across the ocean of life, to the shore of immortality. *Ishwara* has ordained transmigration of soul i.e. mortal takes birth again and again and enjoys fate as a fruit of the consequence of his actions in this life as well as that of his previous births. Accidents, unexplained mishaps as well as super successes to one or a group of people is a result of such accumulated sins or virtues of previous births.
4. One shall love *Ishwara* with heart, soul, and all his strength. Any one who shows disrespect to *Ishwara* is an enemy of the humanity.
5. One should not kill, commit adultery, steal or lie or covet others property and must live a life of honesty, be of an amiable disposition and do hard work.
6. One who forgives men their trespasses and sins, *Ishwara* will forgive him of his sins.
7. One should sharpen his mental power as if it were an arrow which can reach the cause of sorrow and be its ultimate end.
8. One need not know *Mantra* or *Stotra* to pray. Invocation or contemplation is not mandatory. One needs only to open up one's heart to *Ishwara*. No priest is needed.
9. The soul is immortal i.e. life is recyclable. The body perishes with death but the soul remains unperturbed. The soul cannot be

cut by the sword or burnt by the fire.

10. Life is an eternal struggle between the forces of good and evil. One should be very careful with his thought and words so as not to hurt a good man.
11. One should never give way to the deadly emotions of anger, envy, fear and grief. Always be optimistic about *Ishwara*'s long-term plan and believe that everything will come out all right in the end.
12. Everyone comes naked into the world and departs in the same way. During this short period of life one must work to make his environment better so that when he leaves the world, it remains a better place than what he had found.
13. Every thing in this universe is the creation of *Ishwara* and every one has equal rights and responsibilities to use *Ishwara*'s gifts. In the realm of *Ishwara*, no one has a better claim.
14. It is incumbent upon all persons above the age of ten to pray to *Ishwara* at least twice a day (In the morning chant *Mantras* and pray for the success of the day's plan and in the evening chant *Mantra* and thank Ishwara for the success achieved and introspect for all that failed). One must do *Pranayama* at least for ten minutes once in a day. One must organise or attend *Bhoj Utsav* in full moon night once in a month. At least once in a week every one should go to a common place i.e. temple and pray jointly with the community members. The priest should conduct prayer and should discuss the meaning of at least five slokas from the Gita, Veda Shastras and Upanisad and explain how their essence can help mankind of today.

SMRITI SHAstra

(Frequently asked questions)

Smriti Shastra is a book on question-answers about the conduct of daily life. This is from memory (i.e. Smriti) of various Hindu SHASTRAS and sayings of great Hindu saints. There is more than one version of SMRITI SHAstra.

Q 1. What is the test of true faith in Ishwara ?

Ans. A faithful devotee will have courage as a way of life. Courage is not something that comes flying to one's heart in a moment of need or in emergencies. Courage is not something that can be handed over to a person through lessons. It is as much a habit as anything else. Courage is a part of character, which can be formed through prayer and absolute submission to the will of Ishwara. A true believer in Ishwara knows that nothing can stand against the divine and that everything will come out all right in the end. A true religious person takes action courageously in spite of fear.

Q 2. What is God ?

Ans. God is Ishwara. In Hindu religion it is depicted by the word 'Om' and symbol 'ॐ'. Ishwara is an indivisible One having omnipotent power to do every thing and is the cause of all causes. As He is all-powerful he does not require the assistance to fulfill his wish. He is existing from the beginning of time and is endless. Ishwara did not require a parent to take birth and his name is not given by parents. It is a name given by human devotees. Thus, the name of Ishwara is not very significant.

Q 3. What is the difference between Ishwara and Devata ?

Ans. Ishwara is indivisible one having all the power to do everything and is the cause of all causes. Devatas are essentially human beings sent to earth by Ishwara as prophets. Ishwara, out of his kindness and love, sends his messengers to the world as teachers and saviours, who through their own examples guide and illuminate

the mind of the masses and make the world a better and safer place to live. They enjoy the reflected glory of *Ishwara*. Followers of *Devata* are actually followers of *Ishwara*. In the personification of *Devata*, they find the messenger of *Ishwara*. And they shower their respect, gratitude and admiration in various forms. Some make idols, some chant their name, and some compose folk songs in their reverence. It is believed that *Devatas* are messengers of *Ishwara*. They are loved and are the chosen ones of *Ishwara*. It is believed that they also answer to prayers. However, best result is obtained by loud prayer directly to *Ishwara* regularly in chorus, i.e. reciting *Mantras* (Hymns) morning and evening. Chanting *Mantras* takes ten minutes a day but protects one for the eternal life.

- Q 4. If *Ishwara* is Supreme, is not it an insult to *Ishwara* if *Devatas* are worshipped ?
- Ans. In the Gita it is said that *Ishwara* is supreme and is all-powerful and He is so immense that He is not bothered in positive or negative ways even if you worship His messengers i.e. *Devatas* in place of Him.*

***Note :** An example - A respectable and powerful person will never be bothered whether a small creature like an ant shows respect to him or to his subordinates. Similarly *Ishwara* is not bothered if one shows respect to *Devata*. However, comparison between an ant and a man is not correct. *Ishwara* is infinitely greater than a human being. He shows mercy and not anger. However, direct prayer to *Ishwara* is always better and rewarding.

- Q 5. When we get dejected by the selfish world, what is the best way to be fully spiritual ?
- Ans. A synergy between activities and spiritualism is the key to ones existence in this world. By our activities and hard toil we shall construct the temple of *Ishwara* that shall soar above the clouds. *Ishwara* shall reside in that temple with all His glories. *Ishwara* has given everybody sense, strength, nerves, muscles and emotions. Why has this world been created by *Ishwara* in all its varieties and diversities? *Ishwara* has a purpose and an objective. If one tries to isolate himself from daily activities and efforts, it shall be an act of extreme spiritual selfishness. It will deprive one of the love of *Ishwara*. The temple of *Ishwara* is the place where people can enjoy peace and get the feeling of being fulfilled from nothingness. *Ishwara* has no statue or idol.
- Q 6. What is the manifestation of *Ishwara* when the time began ?
- Ans. Darkness was concealed in darkness there, and all that existed was - indiscriminate chaos. The one, which was covered by the void was manifested. The one is *Ishwara*, whose grace created all that moves and all that are fixed, what walks, swims and flies- this multiform creation. That formless reality which lies hidden within is *Ishwara*.
- Q 7. What is the actual name of *Ishwara* ? How does he dictate His creation ?
- Ans. That reality which lies hidden in mystery, where the universe finds one single home. Everything or being is fused into that and emerges from that. The one Lord has no name. Sages called Him *Ishwara*. Prophets came to the earth in human form to do good to His creations as a reflection of His greatness and they are known as *Devatas*. Pious persons pray to *Ishwara* and celebrate the life, deed and the teachings of *Devatas* in temples.
- Q 8. What should be the true method of Hindu marriage ?
- Ans. A true Hindu marriage is a happening between a man and woman and solemnized as per law of the land and complying with the local custom.

- Q 9. Do we need to go to temple daily ? What should the priest do ?
- Ans. Visiting temple regularly and chanting the Lord's prayer in chorus gives mental strength and ensures divine protection.
- The priest should conduct the chorus of prayer and explain the meaning of at least five slokas from Veda/Upanisad/Gita and other Hindu texts to guide the devotees from these hymns in solving their problems. The priest should act as a friend philosopher and guide to the Hindu society and should continuously try to improve the society's ethical and material comfort level.
- Q 10. Do we need to do puja to the deity and pay the priest ?
- Ans. Chanting prayer is more fruitful, compared to the offering of puja to the deity. Offering puja is not mandatory. Priest's financial needs are to be appreciated and a respectable amount should be given to encourage highly qualified and capable people to join the profession of priesthood. Good priests make good society.
- Q 11. How should a funeral be for a devout Hindu ?
- Ans. Fire is considered to be one form of *ParamAtman*. Thus the body should be put on fire so that *Atman* and *ParamAtman* become one. However, the law of the land should be followed.
- Q 12. How should one be punished for being disloyal to the spouse. And how should one be punished for adultery ?
- Ans. Disloyalty to the spouse is a breach of faith. There are many types of breach of faith, e.g. employer-employee, tax payer-tax collector, government office-public, etc. Punishment applicable for breach of faith is also applicable here. Law must prevail equally. Adultery is a case of cheating on the spouse and the law of cheating will be applicable here.
- Q 13. If a rape takes place what is the punishment ?
- Ans. Rape is a violence of extreme severity and punishment should be in accordance with the violence.
- Q 14. Which person deserves heaven ?

- Ans. To reach heaven, a Hindu is expected to chant hymns (*mantras*) twice daily. At least for ten minutes he should do *Pranayama* and associate himself with *Bhoj Utsav*.
- A person who works hard to earn a living, who helps others to a living, is not greedy, acquires the knowledge of scriptures with devotion and follows it in his own life is the right person to go to heaven.
- Q 15. How should one be treated in heaven who helps build or maintain a temple for the use of public ?
- Ans. One who builds a temple for public or spends money or energy for temple maintenance, *Ishwara* keeps a house for such person in heaven.
- Q 16. How is the position of *Ishwara* and Satan in the Universe ?
- Ans. *Ishwara* is ultimate absolute happiness and Satan is pain. Followers of *Ishwara* lead a happy life, give joy to all and enjoy eternal heavenly pleasure. Followers of Satan lead a violent, covert and dirty life and inject pain on whoever comes in contact with them and is destined to hell. Followers of Satan snatch wealth. Followers of *Ishwara* earn a living by dint of hard work and by giving service to *Ishwara*'s creation. Satan is a human concept. Where as *Ishwara* eternal truth.
- Q 17. Is it a requirement for a person to be a *Brahmachari* to be a priest?
- Ans. A priest should be a well educated, enlightened person of selfless positive attitude with patience to hear the problems. He should have intelligence to give solutions and comfort to the problem - ridden person. *Brahmacharya* is not an added qualification. Melodious voice to recite hymns is an added qualification. *Brahmacharya* is an attitude of life and nothing more.
- Q 18. Why in ancient days many Rishi's took *Brahmacharya* ?
- Ans. Rishies were those people who had a great thrust for knowledge. They used to go to various parts of the world in search of right

teacher possessing true knowledge. There were no schools, colleges or books at that time. Teachers used to teach students verbally in their hermitage for a long period of time. In many instances teacher along with his disciples had to move around the nook and corner of the country braving the harsh climate, ferocious animals and some carnivorous people of the forest. Under these circumstances, it was difficult to move with family, children through forest, river etc. Most of the People were of low income group and lower savings. It was hard to make provision for family, when the seeker of knowledge had gone to distant places for a long period of absence. Thus seekers of knowledge generally used to take *Brahmacharya* to avoid financial demands of a family life. People showered great respect to these *Brahmachari* Rishis for their great knowledge.

- Q 19. What is the need to study the scripture of the religious books ?
- Ans. All scriptures were written with inspiration from *Ishwara*. These books stand as the pole star of life and protect one from taking wrong decisions.
- Q 20. Why does *Ishwara* give adversity ?
- Ans. *Ishwara* has given human beings their limbs, intelligence and conscience. Adversity causes some of them to break and lose faith in *Ishwara*. *Ishwara* tests people through adversity.
- Q 21. There were many important people of the society, who sacrificed the interest and security of the vast majority of the mass on being allured by foreign power with material gain or, to satisfy their personal vengeance on the king of the land. How these people should be treated ?
- Ans. Unfortunately these people are invariably very cunning, mighty or influential who can confuse the mass with their treacherous gift of the gab. You treat these persons of meanest treachery in the same way you will treat a person who sells your mother in a flesh trade. If you cannot master the courage to act, a dark cell in the hell is waiting for you.

- Q 22. When a corrupt man lives better, why does *Ishwara* order man to be honest?
- Ans. A corrupt man eats better, an honest man sleeps better. An honest man with integrity, enjoys a happy life. His children are blessed.
- Q 23. How should great achievers behave ?
- Ans. They should pray to *Ishwara* “let me not say or do anything which will annoy you”.
- Q 24. What should be the place of women in family and society?
- Ans. To lift the body, a bird needs to have equal strength in both wings. Similarly, a woman and a man should have equal position in all family and social matters for all-round happiness.
- Q 25. Do we please *Ishwara* by taking *Sannyas* i.e. renunciation of the worldly affairs ?
- Ans. *Sannyas* means denouncing worldly affairs, working for his own spiritual upliftment. Spiritual selfishness is the most extreme form of selfishness. There is a unique system embedded in all human society that prevents one from becoming an outright selfish person. It is this inherent system that makes one interested in the welfare of others even when one tries to preserve his own interests. In fact, it is not possible to protect ones own interest without taking care of the interests of others. It is the collective interest, which always navigates one to protect the self and the interest of others. Even narrow personal interest gradually merges and unites with that of their children, their families, their neighbours and their country and the world at large. In this world work is the only worship which pleases *Ishwara*. *Sannyas* is selfish escapism.
- Q 26. Why do we need *Bramcharya* ? Who needs it ?
- Ans. During studentship, the mind should be concentrated on learning and *Bramcharya* helps to concentrate.
- A person who takes a vow to free himself of all worldly attractions of life, is expected to practice control over his sensual organs and various daily needs. *Bramhacharya* is a part of renunciation of the worldly comfort and needs of the sensual organs.

- Q 27. Why does *Ishwara* desire all to be disciplined ?
- Ans. Discipline is painful to practice, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. *Ishwara* loves the disciplined person.
- Q 28. With the change of circumstances why does man change?
- Ans. This world belongs to the man who is wise enough to change his mind in the presence of facts. *Ishwara* loves wise men. Those who have done nothing in life are not qualified to judge those who have done little.
- Q 29. How should one control his tongue ?
- Ans. It is important not only to say the right thing in the right place, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment. Unpleasant truth annoys the receiver. Show respect to anyone in authority.
- Q 30. Should one take risk in life for a livelihood ?
- Ans. One may be disappointed if one fails, but one is doomed if one does not try. Defeat is not the worst from of failure. Our deeds determine us, as much as we determine our deeds.
- Q 31. What is courage ?
- Ans. Courage is resistance to fear, mastery over fear- not absence of fear.
- Q 32. How does one choose a companion ?
- Ans. He who walks with a wise man shall be wise. Company of fools shall cause destruction.
- Q 33. Whom will the *Ishwara* make successful in life ?
- Ans. The price of success is hard work, dedication to the task at hand, and determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the job at hand. Do not hanker for result, for result is ordained to be proportional and resultant of all forces. Diligence is the mother of good fortune.
- Q 34. Should we leave family and social life to become a sage?
- Ans. It is better to carry out our duties and responsibilities faithfully

rather than indulge in spiritual activities for the delight of our souls. It is not preferred to indulge solely in spiritual activities by neglecting our duties. Such activities are spiritual luxuries and do not serve *Ishwara*.

Q 35. What is *Bramhacharya* ?

Ans. *Bramhacharya* (practice of celibacy) is the practice of self-control and concentration on the goal. It is not only control of sex. Sex is a gift of *Ishwara* and not a sin if used with proper control.

Q 36. Is killing of animals allowed in religion ?

Ans. Bare minimum killing is allowed for self defence and for food only. However, causing injury, more than minimum, is violence and is a sin. Many animals and insects live on killings, e.g. the tiger, lizard, spider etc. If *Ishwara* would have prohibited all type of killing even for the purpose of food, He would not have created carnivorous animals like the tiger/leopard/spider etc.

Q 37. Can a Hindu woman remarry after her husband's death?

Ans. When the husband dies, a Hindu woman is allowed to remarry. Example : In *Mahabharata* when Hastinapur King *Dhritarastra*'s father King *Bichitrabirya* died at a young age, King *Dhritarastra*'s grand-mother Queen *Satyabati* insisted that the late King *Bichitrabirya*'s wife *Ambalika* should have conjugal life with the elder brother of *Bichitrabirya* i.e. with *Vishma*. However, as *Vishma* took a vow at his young age not to marry and to remain a *Bramhachari* (have a life of celibacy) throughout his life, he refused to comply with the request of his mother. However, another son of *Satyabati*, i.e. *Parasar* complied with the request and as a result of conjugal activity with *Ambalika*, King *Dhritarastra* was born.

Q 38. If I know my companion has committed a sin, as a Hindu should I abandon him ?

Ans. Assist your companion even if he is a sinner, assist a sinner by forbidding and withholding him from committing further sins.

- Q 39. Should a pious man work hard to earn a living or should we resort to begging ?
- Ans. Whosoever is able and fit must work for himself and for others, *Ishwara* is gracious to him. *Ishwara* is gracious to him who earns his living by his own-labour and not by begging.
- Q 40. How should a person treat his employer ?
- Ans. Giver of food to your family deserves your loyalty and revolting against him is annoying to *Ishwara*.
- Q 41. How to control jealousy ? How to ask for a boon ?
- Ans. A wealthy person should look towards a less wealthy person and the poor to a poorer person to judge the grace of *Ishwara* and abandon jealousy.
Do not pray for a boon from *Ishwara* for what you think is good, pray to Him for what He thinks is good for you.
- Q 42. What is the result of the quest for knowledge ?
- Ans. Go in quest of knowledge even unto the furthest corner of the earth for he serves *Ishwara* well who gives life to learning and seeks knowledge from the cradle to the pyre. Know yourself to realize *Ishwara*. The acquisition of knowledge is a duty incumbent on every pious person, male and female. Acquire knowledge, it enables its possessor to distinguish right from wrong and helps to choose the right direction to heaven and earth.
- Q 43. Accumulation of wealth makes a person rude and proud. Is it a sin to run after accumulation of wealth ? How should one behave in adult life in a materialistic world ?
- Ans. In the kingdom of *Ishwara* all actions are judged by the motives prompting them. The proud will not enter the kingdom of *Ishwara*, nor a violent speaker. The pious man to *Ishwara* is rich with a contented mind, which the abundance of worldly goods cannot provide. Be in the world like a drop of water on a lotus leaf. Create wealth but do not get attached to it for *Ishwara* has sent you to make the world richer. Whatever mishap may befall on you, it is on account of something which your action has resulted in. Pray for His pardon.

Q 44. To be head priest of any temple, is *Brahmacharya* a must for the priest ?

Ans. No. *Brahmacharya* is not necessary. *Brahmacharya* in student life is beneficial as it helps a student to concentrate in his studies. In adult life *Brahmacharya* is a great pressure on mind even when one carries out normal routine work. Great Hindu prophets recommended *Brahmacharya*.

Q 45. Is giving alms mandatory for Hindus ?

Ans. Giving alms is good but not mandatory for Hindus. Religious philosophy is not for present day economic conditions only. It is for eternity. *Ishwara* is merciful to Hindus and persons who depend on alms is fast vanishing from the Hindu society. Everybody must work to create wealth so that the world is prosperous and the need of giving alms to beggars vanishes. However, Hindus are required to donate at least one per cent of their earning for common causes of society and temple maintenance.

Q 46. How should Hindu religion treat scientific discoveries ?

Ans. Teachings of Hinduism and teachings of science are actually two sides of the same coin. For example in Atharba Veda hymn no 19/5/2/3-5, when we read the description " Gagan Duhita's Night ", we see the suggested security personnel's deployment in arithmetic progression i.e. 99,88,77,66,55,44,33,22,11. etc. The same A. P. Series was described also in the Hindu scriptures propounded by Aryabhatta, Bramhasfuta, Siddhartha Sekhar, Lilabati etc. Arithmetic Progression was very clearly described in hymn no. 17 in Bramhasfuta Sidhanta by Bramhagupta as following:

पदमेकहीनमुत्तरगुणिता संयुक्तमादिनाऽन्त्यधनम्
आदियुतान्त्यधनार्थं मध्यधनं पदगुणं गणितम् ॥

- ब्रम्हगुप्त

- ब्राम्हस्फुटसिद्धान्त गणिताध्याय १७ सुत्र ॥

*Padamekahinamuttargunita sanjuktamadina hantadhanam
Adjutantadhanadhang madhyadhanag padagunanang ganitam*

This hymn means, n-th term $t_n = [a + (n - 1)b]$,
Middle term $M_n = \frac{2a + (n-1)b}{2}$, sum of all terms $S_n = n/2 [2a + (n-1)b]$.

Hindu religion has elasticity to assimilate all new discoveries of science into it and transform itself with the new truth. This resilience of Hindu religion has given it the strength to keep its main tenants intact and not got converted even in the face of invasion of proselyting foreign religions, hostile foreign rulers and huge religion based civil wars. To a Hindu scientific discoveries are treated as revelation of Iswar's gifts, i.e., the thing, which was already gifted by God is being discovered by Scientist and Rishis (Saints).

Q 47. What dress is ideal for a Hindu priest ?

Ans. Any dress convenient for working in the contemporary world is suitable. During Lord Krishna's time, *dhoti* and *kharam* (wooden clogs) were in vogue and priests used those dresses. With efficient and cheaper clothes being made available, priests have the choice of modern dress suitable for working in the contemporary world. For a Hindu priest dress must be utility oriented.

Q 48. Can a priest use international dress like that of trouser and jacket?

Ans. To match fast working pace and in a cold climate, trouser and jacket is suitable. In a hot climate and relaxed atmosphere *dhoti* and *sleepers* is suitable. However, a priest is useful to the society for his knowledge, discourses he delivers and solace people receive from him. None of these qualities are affected by the dress code one chooses. Thus importance of an attire in the effectiveness of a priest is insignificant and is to be left to the individual taste.

- Q 49. What is the effect of Hindu's attire of *dhoti* in their social, cultural and religious life?
- Ans. *Dhoti* is a less costly attire and its use gave an austere image in social life. However, *dhoti* clad person cannot work at any fast pace or move briskly or involve himself in self-defence. *Dhoti* clad Hindus always got subjugated by the trouser clad Central Asian invaders.
- Q 50. Is *dhoti* the ideal dress for performing important functions of national pride?
- Ans. Hindus became slow performers in *dhoti* and were defeated in almost all competitions to achieve any thing as a person or as a nation e.g. wealth, power, fame, health etc. Even good food, good housing, robust health or any other comfort was not achievable. Hindus made cocoons for themselves and developed a pseudo pride in a domain where no one will compete e.g. living with almost no food, no comfort, or no wealth etc.
- Q 51. Will *Ishwara* consider it a sin for Hindus to respect a stone statue as symbol of the all mighty *Ishwara* or the symbol of devil Satan?
- Ans. It is not a sin but is unnecessary to depict a stone or statue as symbol of *Ishwara* or symbol of Satan. However, it is an effective method of gathering a crowd in one place. Preachers of all religions used this methodology in one way or the other to bring people together. Followers of some path use the symbol of statue, structure, book, etc. to show respect to the concept of *Ishwara* and others used the symbol of a stone pillar to show disrespect to the concept of Satan. However, these are too trivial for the greatest of the great *Ishwara* to be impressed in any way.
- Q 52. Will it be better for the humanity and pleasing to *Ishwara* to have stern jurisprudence like amputating the hand of the thief ?
- Ans. *Ishwara* is the creator of everything and everybody. He has immense kindness and He cannot be heartless to his own creation. A thief steals out of abject poverty. Society provides no easy opportunity for a person to earn a livelihood. Society provides no safety net for even bare minimum existence. A person who is

forced to steal in a particular country, may get social security net in a different country. And he can lead a decent life. Thus stealing is not a crime against *Ishwara*. It is a malady of the social and the political system. Amputating the hands of a thief is a terror tactic adopted by unjust selfish rulers to intimidate common people to silence. Common people then tremble out of fear and do not even voice their legitimate grievances.

Q 53. Will it be better for the humanity and pleasing to *Ishwara* to have a straight forward jurisprudence like putting to gallows the women who get into extra marital affairs ?

Ans. All men and women have the right to get natural enjoyments out of life. It is an *Ishwara* given gift. If a woman has dishonest/ abusive/unkind/uninteresting/sick/impotent husband, she shows no disrespect to *Ishwara* by being attracted to another man. Rulers and top layer of the ruling elite, who are in many cases dishonest/ abusive/unkind/pervert themselves, want to subjugate their womenfolk through method of terror in the name of divine ordinance. The affected men have only the right to divorce the women and society can force the women to accept divorce without alimony. Any other punishment is a crime against *Ishwara*. However, loyalty to each other ensures a permanent bliss between man and his wife and guarantees good upbringing of children and is pleasing to *Ishwara*.

Q 54. Do the Hindus need weapon for self-defence ?

Ans. All Hindus above the age of fourteen must possess some weapon legally allowed by the law of the land. Even the poorest of men should have a stick in his house. The possession of weapon gives courage, self-esteem and protection during the time of need. Courageous person can only have true love of *Ishwara*.

Q 55. What sort of group or people should be encouraged by Hindus ?

Ans. The group or people who ensure self respect, power, safety and financial well being of Hindus should be supported and those who remain indifferent to Hindu interest should be opposed.

Q 56. How should one behave if he finds his religion or Devta is insulted?

- Ans. As one deals with the slayer of one's mother in the same way one should deal with a person who insults *Ishwara* or Deity.
- Q 57. Should a Hindu allow people of other religion to enter a Hindu temple ?
- Ans. Unclean persons and those with infectious diseases should be prevented. All other persons should find Hindu temple a refuge for spiritual solace.
- Q 58. What should a devotee expect from a Hindu temple ?
- Ans. The temple should be a place of prayer open to all for all times (sunrise to sunset). The temple authorities should try to feed the hungry from the donation received from devotees. It should give education, treatment and other relief to the people and be part of the social struggle for welfare of all devotees. It should have a big hall where devotees can come and offer prayers.
- Q 59. Should politics and religion be separated ?
- Ans. Politics is the attitude of people to any issue. Attitude is the result of sense of values. And sense of values is the product of adherence to a religion. Religion and politics are intermixed and have a symbiotic relationship. When this relationship is ignored, politics become not for the people but for the continuance of immoral people as ruler.*

***Note :** *Mahabharata is the best example to find an answer. Vishma ignored politics but adhered to religion and the result was the perversion of the Kouravas. If he had mixed religion and politics, he would have agreed to his father's second marriage to Satyabati but would not have succumbed to undue political pressure of Satyabati's politician father. Satyabati's father said he will agree to give his daughter Satyabati to wed with King Santanu (Vishma's father) only if Vishma abdicates his right to the throne. Vishma abandoned politics and religiously agreed to the condition to satisfy his father King Santanu's lust. The result was disaster*

and caused the end of Kouravs dynasty. Millions of innocent men lost their lives during the war of Mahabharata. Vishma himself would have been a great, strong and righteous king of India. Vishma failed to mix religion and politics and by doing so he denied India a powerful and a great king. If Vishma would have been a king, it would have helped millions of Indians.

The other example is Lord Krishna. He mixed politics and religion in all things he did and Gita is a product of that. Lord Krishna by mixing politics with religion could banish the Kourava kingdom and establish the great righteous kingdom of the Pandavas.

Q 60. How should one behave with the King ?

Ans. One should be loyal to the King so that he can carry out the work related to the building of the nation. There are many ways of nation building and one may find a better method but nothing will be achieved by pushing the King to abandon his method. Loyalty should be absolute provided the King is a selfless worker. The king's public work and not his personal life is important.

Q 61. Can someone use the temple congregation to enhance his business ?

Ans. The temple is not a place for publicising ones business. The temple is a place to recite prayer to *Ishwara* and to discuss about common social problems.

Q 62. What happens when the priest pronounces the *slokas* wrong ?

Ans. *Ishwara* will understand and be kind to the followers, the priest however, will not get the benefit of the prayer. If a wise man knows the correct pronunciation, he should teach the priest the correct pronunciation, when the priest is alone. Public embarrassment of the priest should be avoided.

Q 63. Which work is more respectable ?

Ans. Gita teaches that there is no hierarchy of labour. No work is degrading. If any work ought to be done, then it is a good and respectable work.

- Q 64. How to change the world to make it a happier place ?
- Ans. Everyone thinks of changing the world, but thinking of changing oneself will be more lovable to *Ishwara*.
- Q 65. Why do the devotees of *Ishwara* go to the temple for Idol worship?
- Ans. The *mantras* of Idol worship are full of adulation and admiration of the *Devatas* contribution. *Devatas* are Hindu prophets who came as messiah of *Ishwara*. Idol worship is a demonstration of hero worship. Best benefit, however, is obtained through regular chanting of *Ishwara mantras* (hymns).
- Q 66. Can any *Devata* claim to be the last prophet of Hindus ?
- Ans. All prophets were human. *Ishwara* has the final right if He will send another prophet or not. No human can usurp that right from *Ishwara*. Till date Lord Krishna is considered to be the last prophet of the Hindus.
- Q 67. How should the head of any temple be respected ?
- Ans. The head of any temple is generally the custodian/trustee/administrator of the temple and a priest. Devotees should respectfully cooperate with the head of the temple so that he can conduct himself in a manner beneficial to all devotees and society at large.
- Q 68. Will Hindu's endure injustice as a fate accomli ?
- Ans. Hinduism upholds the principle of free will, as opposed to that of predestined fate. True Hindus will never meekly endure injustice unless they become first convinced of their incapability to determine their own destiny. Vedas say "Verily *Ishwara* will not change the condition of a folk, till they change what is in themselves". Hindus are obliged to revolt when they are convinced that the king who is charged with the task of preserving the justice of the governing system proves to be the mainstay of its abuses.
- Q 69. What sort of political state is conducive to the Hindus ?
- Ans. Politics is the art of achieving and running a government. In the political system, the spread of Hindu philosophy must be possible. The most preferable king is the one who works for the betterment

of the Hindu subjects. A king who, if not totally committed to Hinduism, but at least sympathetic to its goals, is acceptable. By this token a Hindu who lives under a regime devoted or even favorable to Hinduism should actively work for the survival of the government and the spread of Hindu philosophy. And any Hindu who lives under a regime hostile to Hinduism, should struggle for its overthrow whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Q 70. When and how should a Hindu show disobedience to a ruler ?

Ans. In case of disputes as to who should be the king or why we should obey the king arises. All conscious Hindus must look back in history and discuss with his co-religionists. The impulse to do so should be much more powerful when Hindus are under a hostile regime, as large number of them have suffered for many centuries, under alien rulers, or those associated with them. The vital condition which should be observed by Hindus in exercising its right to resist injustice and negligence even if by group work is that the advantage of such an act will always outweigh its disadvantages.

Q 71. Can a Hindu leader use position, caste or group to advance their political importance ? Which type of work is degrading ?

Ans. Any one who uses political methods or theory which encourages any division amongst Hindus in any form is an enemy of *Ishwara* and deserves to be annihilated. The *Ishwara* knows nothing of a hierarchy of labour. No work is degrading. If it ought to be done, then it is good work.

Q 72. Do you believe that adherents to one God theory, opposed to idolatry, are making the world a better place? Can fasting absolve one of his sin ?

Ans. The contribution of the iconoclasts to medical science, food technology, physics, chemistry, mathematics etc. are negligible. Their bigotry only legitimized violence and torture on innocent, weak, women and animals. They only encouraged psychological and physical slavery of all faithful. They induced criminals to

commit all sorts of crime with the preposterous promise that the God will wash away all their sins if they control their food habit for few days or make good offerings to God.

Q 73. How do cruel enemies and rapacious armies subjugate whole nations in the name of *ISHWARA* ?

Ans. In-group and out-group psychology is always skillfully used by megalomaniacs to expand their territory of influence and trick their own people into believing that they are working to please *Ishwara*. Expansionists use the *Ishwara*'s name to allure or scare people of worldly things and establish their own hegemony. *Ishwara*'s name is used to block any unbiased thinking and possibility of any subsequent army revolt.

Q 74. Will an absolute Hindu king who continuously consults wise men and experts be the best option?

Ans. Once a king implements consultation between the rulers and the ruled, the provisions laid in the divine jurisprudence on the right to resist injustice will prevail and automatically ensure democracy for the masses.

However, as consultation depends on the good faith of the absolute monarch, provisions against injustice remain only in the intellectual domain of the learned few, it is never implemented. Thus a totalitarian king is not an option.

Q 75. Can the assembly of wise men act as a safeguard against a tyrannical ruler ?

Ans. An unjust ruler always gets his rule sanctified by summoning an assembly of high priests with intellectual and moral reputations and get their assent to his absolute rule at the point of the sword or through distribution of favours. And later claims to have divine dispensation which people must accept meekly as *Ishwara* gifted fate accompli.

Q 76. Is it better to have totalitarian rule or rule established by consensus of the entire community ?

Ans. Judging from the concrete historical instances from the beginning

of civilization, the entire community has never played any role in installing the ruler. It has always been established by force, and maintained by oppression. Advocates of the absolute monarch were always community jurists, (i.e. religious and political leaders) agreeing to it as the consensus of silence.

Q 77. How religion and politics are related ?

Ans. Religion and politics are both interwoven in the psychology of the masses. They are unnatural to be divorced from each other. For if they are completely separated, religion will die out of starvation of political patronage and politics without the boundaries of religious ethics will be immoral, selfish and of demonic in character.

Q 78. How should one give *puja* ?

Ans. Chanting prayer of *Ishwara* is the best puja. Avoid using water, liquid, etc. for puja. It is unhygienic and is annoying to the deity.

Q 79. Do we need to fast for achieving the best reward from puja ?

Ans. One should fast during full-moon day between sunrise to sunset and enjoy community dinner, by rotation, called ‘*Bhoj-Utsav*’ after the moon rises. One should invite friends and acquaintances. This brings the blessings of *Ishwara* and the devotees get good health and great wealth. For other days Puja should be done in clean dress and in worry free mind. Remaining in fast is not necessary for doing any social functions. It is believed that the number of people you associate with ‘*Bhoj-Utsav*’, the same number of your forefathers get food. You may invite people or be invited, the result is always good.

Q 80. Who can be a priest ?

Ans. Any good man or woman above the age of 20 can be a priest. The priest should be educated, a person of moral character and a good orator with knowledge of Hindu religion and scriptures. The priest should be able to explain *Veda/Gita/Upanisads* etc. in the congregation of devotees and sing bhajans. The priest should be courageous, of good health and habits. The priest should be a person who will treat his own children and the devotees with equal

love and care. The priest should be able to guide devotees in their prayers and act as a leader for social upliftment.

Q 81. How should one do puja of the various *Devatas* ?

Ans. Minimum fifteen mantras are a must. After reciting the basic fifteen *mantras* one should recite individual *Devata*'s great achievement to commemorate the great contribution of a particular *Devata*. This will encourage devotees to emulate the same. The priest should recite these from the book or from memory. Any offering, besides prayer, is only to display the wealth of the devotee and is of no use to *Ishwara*. Except prayer, *Ishwara* do not accept any other thing.

Q 82. What should be the priest's income ?

Ans. A priest should get salary from the temple fund. Devotees must pay one hundredth of his monthly earning to the temple fund or to Hindu social organisations as an offering of gratitude to *Ishwara* for he gave us a human life and wealth.

Q 83. Why are devotees required to pay to the temple or for other social causes ?

Ans In this world all men are equally loved by *Ishwara*. However, due to various reasons, one has more earning capacity compared to others. One enjoys a better portion of the world's wealth, which actually is for all to share equally. One is relieved of sin of higher income and wealth generation if one shares his earning with others. Temple or other social services are the vehicles through which one gets rid of the sin of enjoying more wealth, by donating minimum one hundredth of his monthly income.

Q 84. What are the causes for good donations ?

Ans. Land for temple construction. Food for the hungry. Medicine and relief to the sick and the old. Education to the masses. Training to the livelihood/employment seekers. Safety and security to the fearful.

Q 85. How much time should one spend on prayer ?

Ans. One should pray two times a day. Once in the early morning and

once before going to bed. The minimum prayer to *Ishwara* takes about five minutes. One should do *Pranayama* regularly at least for continuous ten minutes. However, after doing prayer to *Ishwara* one can add prayers of various deities and it can be for hours. The priest should be watchful not to be strenuous to old, children and sick persons and determine the length of prayer. Prayer for five minutes twice a day, ten minutes *Pranayama* daily and one *Bhoj Utsav* in a month is required to reach heaven.

- Q 86. In a temple congregation how should devotees stand for prayer ?
Ans. Devotees should stand in formation of 9 by 9, or 12 by 12 etc. depending on the room size and number of devotees. The priest will help. It means nine persons should stand side by side in one row and nine persons should follow the first person i.e column should be of 9 by 9 i.e., 81 persons can be in a congregation. If, say, 22 persons are there, then first row and second row should be of 9 by 9 i.e. 18 persons and in the third row there will be four persons. This will make a congregation of 22 persons and so on.
- Q 87. What is the best position for women in a congregation in a temple?
Ans. Depending on the congregation half of left-side rows and columns should be used by women.
- Q 88. Why is daily prayer important ?
Ans. Prayer is an invisible tool, which helps accrual of great wealth. It ensures all-round success in worldly as well as an eternal life. After hundred years everything will be forgotten about one's success or failures but prayer of today will guide one in his/her eternal life.
- Q 89. How to meet *Ishwara* ?
Ans. Whoever loves to meet *Ishwara*, *Ishwara* loves to meet him.
- Q 90. To save the honour of *Ishwara* should a Hindu be enemy of the people of other faith ?
Ans. Only ignorant megalomaniacs usurp as saviour of the honour of one *Ishwara* and deny that *Ishwara* only created all tribes and gave them rituals through his messiah, for who can exist if He desires not.

Q 91. Who will be going to heaven and who will go to hell ?

Ans. The world has two types of people *Sur* and *Asur*. *Surs* are the people who work hard to create wealth and share it amongst others to make world peaceful and happier place to live by all. They are created by *Ishwara*. They will have an eternal dwelling in heaven. *Asurs* are people who live by snatching the wealth of *Ishwara's* men and spared hatred and terror. The *Asurs* are embodiment of Satanic instincts and are destined to burn eternally in hell.

Q 92. If some one does a crime or a sin, can performing puja or making offerings to the deity reduce the penalty ?

Ans. *Ishwara* or any deity is not influenced by any bribe. Offering puja only helps the needy priests. Sincere repentance, adequate compensation to the aggrieved and regular prayer only ensures return of love and mercy from *Ishwara*.

Q 93. Are not the Hindus embodiment of patience as against revolution?

Ans. Hindus for over the last one thousand years have remained subservient to foreign rulers. They were not united and thus not courageous enough to fight back. And instead of revolution they camouflaged their daily insulting existence as nonviolence and love of peace. They propounded many philosophies to make Hindu society champion of impotency. To justify their cowardice and slave nation status, they started taking pride in their enormous capacity of tolerance of brutality.

Q 94. What should Hindus do to annihilate Satan who creates problem for *Ishwara* ?

Ans. Hindus believe that *Ishwara* has unlimited power and Satan can not be a match for *Ishwara*. If anyone accepts that Satan exists in the kingdom of *Ishwara* and is creating problem for *Ishwara*, he actually believes that *Ishwara* is helpless with limited power. But *Ishwara* is all-powerful. And if *Ishwara* is all-powerful, logically Satan can not exist to create problems for *Ishwara*.

Satanic character or deeds are a very human phenomena.

Ishwara gave us intelligence, common sense and the judgment. Human beings choose to be Satan because of the lust for physical satisfaction, power, wealth etc.

Q 95. If someone does not pray to *Ishwara* regularly, will He get annoyed with him?

Ans. If *Ishwara* wanted man to continuously pray to him, He would not have sent man to the earth. He would have kept the man with Him so that man could go on praying continuously. *Ishwara* is too great an entity to be bothered by these small matters. However, man being an intelligent person gets the opportunity to pray. Prayer gives impetus to achieve success in all walks of worldly as well as eternal life. One can accomplish more in one hour with *Ishwara* than in one life time without Him.*

Q 96. Why is it that in *Ishwara's* realm some are good, some are bad, some are saints, some are terrorists ?

Ans. This lease of life on earth is a short training ground. Human beings are given intelligence and judgement power. Here we train ourselves and decide on a way of life. On the basis of our activities in this short period of life in earth, our place in heaven and hell is decided.

Q 97. Will it be pleasing to *Ishwara*, if all human beings are converted to become *Ishwara* believers ?

Ans. If *Ishwara* wished all human beings to pay homage in the name of *Ishwara* only, He would have done it in a moment as He is all-powerful. None of His wishes can remain unfulfilled. Those who convert people of other faith to their own brand of faith by lure or by force actually insult *Ishwara*.

***Note :** For example if a man lives by the seashore and does not take bath regularly in the sea, the sea is not affected, by bathing regularly in the sea one can enjoy good and robust health.

If it was displeasing to *Ishwara*, He would not have kept different human races with different modes of worship. All would have chanted the name of *Ishwara* through natural force. It is the will of *Ishwara* that people of various faiths should practise their forms of worship. However, in whatever form the prayer is offered, it reaches Him.

Q 98. How is *Ishwara* responsible for salvation of individual human beings ?

Ans. Verses of Veda absolve *Ishwara* from responsibilities for individual human salvation, something, which is essentially the fruit of man's own action.

Q 99. Why could a Devata like Lord Krishna not use his power to convert the Hindu masses to a modern nation devoid of poverty and ill-health ?

Ans. Verses warned all *Devatas* (i.e messiahs) repeatedly against acting as an 'agent', 'guardian' or 'holder of absolute authority' over humanity, by restricting them to their sole function of communicating the divine message through wise words, sermons and examples of righteous behavior. None of the *Devatas*, including Lord Krishna, could usurp the power of *Ishwara*.

Q 100. Will *Ishwara* be displeased if a Hindu woman does not dress conservatively ?

Ans. Dress has nothing to do with pleasure or displeasure of *Ishwara*. *Ishwara* is too big for these trivial matters. Recommendation of a dress code on women is a reflection on the nature and character of the men of the society. Where men are educated and civilized, Hindu women are free to choose their own life style and dress code.

Q 101. Should we display the sign of belonging to the Hindu faith ?

Ans. One must take all opportunities to display the sign that one is a Hindu. And one must take opportunity to talk about his faith and spread the message of Hinduism. He will be doing a pleasing service to the *Ishwara*.

Q 102. What is the desirable and ethical food-habit for Hindu ?

Ans. Since Vedic period there were vegetarian as well as non-vegetarian Hindus. In place where abundance of vegetable and fruits are available, vegetarianism is prevalent. There are places where not even a blade of grass grows, people are bound to be non-vegetarian for their survival. Food - habit has nothing much to do with ethics of life.

Q 103. What punishment is reserved for the eaters of cow meat in India?

Ans. Cow being the most important pillar of Indian agriculture and economy, its slaughter deserves to be banned. In an over populated hungry and poverty stricken country like India, if a cow is allowed to be killed for food, it will be eaten away in no time and will cause continuous crop failures and starvation death to poorer people. To save the poor rural masses cow must be protected for agriculture. Religious ban of cow slaughter is to protect the masses.

Q 104. Why are some Hindu *Devatas* shown to have multiple hands and heads ?

Ans. Super human achievements in the use of weapons or in the field of knowledge were exaggerated by story tellers and made myths about *Devatas*, which over-zealous artists and sculptors gave unnatural form to suit the metaphorical and wild imagination. All *Devatas* were human beings and none was above natural law. All *Devatas* had one head and two hands. Hindu hymns (mantra) explain this as following:

त्रिमस्तकानां ज्ञानम् एकशिरे अवस्थितं
चतुर्बाहुतुल्यबलं द्विहस्ते रोपितम् ॥
भक्तेच्छापूरणार्थं पुनः पुनः आविर्भूतम्
प्रणामामि त्वां हि ईश्वरप्रेरितदूतम् ।

*Trimastakanang jnanam ekashire abasthitam
chaturbahutulya balam dvitaste ropitam*

*Bhaktechhapuranarthang punah punah abirbhutam
pranamami tvang hi Ishwarapreritadutam.*

Oh Ishwara you sent messiahs in human form time and again. This messiahs are very wise and in their one head they have the capabilities of three heads. Their two hands are powerful enough to work as if four hands are working.

Q 105. Some *Devata* is depicted as a debauch e.g. Indra, even then why are Hindus respectful to him ?

Ans. In physical strength and warfare skill, Indra was great. He was also a very brilliant political leader with a great foresight but he had little control over his lust and got entangled in many scandals. Hindus respect the super human qualities of Indra but not his scandals. Story of Indra teaches the Hindu public that a brilliant man is not always necessarily a perfect man.*

***Note :** (i) *There are many instances where a doctor is a great surgeon in operation theatre but cheats the country as a tax evader.*

(ii) Albert Einstein was one of the greatest scientists of all time but he cheated on his wife to remarry another woman.

In all these cases the men, even with personal shortcomings, got the respect of the masses for their brilliance and contribution. Story of Indra is of no exception.

Q 106. How should Hindus treat people who believe in different path of salvation?

Ans. People who believe in different path of salvation should be treated with courtesy.

Q 107. Which profession is most respectable for a Hindu ?

Ans. Any professional duty discharged with best ability and honest sincerity is respectable, however, those who live on physical labour are most loved ones to *Ishwara*. And being an entrepreneur and doing business is most pleasing to Him as businessmen create wealth, which they leave for posterity.

Q 108. Which community has contributed maximum for the continuance and flourishing of Hinduism ?

Ans. *Ishwara* loves His creation and is pleased to see them being well off economically. Workers and artisans had highest contribution,

entrepreneurs came second, academicians and politicians took third place, all other professions came fourth. However, distribution of wealth was not commensurate with contribution to the economy. Hindus need to do structural adjustment.

Q. 109. Which are six things a man should never trust ?

Ans. *Ishwara* ordains that a man should never trust or take for granted the six unreliable i.e. (a) promise of a king (b) spread of fire (c) direction of wind (d) depth of water (e) a heretic person (f) a person of hostile faith.

Q.110. Is there conflict between science and religion ?

Ans. Science is the practice of finding physical explanation about the universe and using that knowledge to make the *Ishwara*'s world a better place. There is no legitimate conflict between science and religion in Hinduism. The main source of conflict between the two arose when some false prophets propagated the concept of the *Ishwara* being someone with whom human could communicate. *Ishwara* has no form, colour or description and as such question of His talking to anyone does not arise.

Q.111. Who created man and how ancient man lived ?

Ans. Through evolutionary process human species came to exist in planet earth for over million years. The ancient man had no knowledge of *Ishwara* and the cause of all causes. People lived in groups / tribes. They lived a savage life through hunting of animals, plucking fruits and snatching food, wealth and women of other groups.

Q.112. When *Ishwara* came to save man ?

Ans. *Ishwara* was there from the beginning of all existance but ignorant man were not aware. *Ishwara* sent his messiahs time and again but they were not effective due to non-existance of any communicable language and the tribes were fearful and feroceous. They believed none other than their own tribal chief. They feared natural calamities, disease, ferocious animals and members of other groups/tribes. They thought that if they offer food or

sacrifices, they will be relieved from these calamities. They imagined God as a great King or a great tribal leader who needs absolute loyalty of his followers and who become revengeful if his follower start free thinking. They were the false Gods of ferocious ancient people. About 20000 years ago *Ishwara* decided to further help mankind and three messiahs Bramha, Bishnu, Maheswara came to this world. They unified the Indian subcontinent and spread the knowledge of *Ishwara* and His dictates. They propounded Veda. Sanatan Dharma was established and man was saved from animal like existance.

Q.113. What is the difference between tribal Gods and *Ishwara* ?

Ans. Tribal Gods are false Gods. They are like jealous political leaders who promises various moral as well as immoral benefits to his followers so that number of believers in his leadership swells. His supporters forces non-believer into subjugation with killing, raping and looting or through allurement.

Follower of true God i.e. *Ishwara* is aware of His dictates for leading a civilized decent life in this world. They are taught the true short path to heaven. No force or induced allurement is employed to enhance the number of *Ishwara* believers.

Q. 114. What is *Bhoj Utsav* ? What is its benefit ?

Ans. It is a religious community dinner held, after day long fasting, on full moon night. Dinner is by rotation amongst friends, relations, well-wishers and acquaintances. Fasting is done once in a month during day time. Those who arrange *Bhoj Utsav* or take part in *Bhoj Utsav* will surely get a place in the heaven and will also ensure safety and security of devout's children and wealth. This is a must for all Hindus. Food should be taken after offering thanks to *Ishwara* and all deceased forefathers (men and women both). In Veda it is said *Bhoj Utsav* gives even better result compare to performing *Yajnas*.

Q.115. How property to be distributed to the heir after death ?

Ans. All wealth belongs to *Ishwara* and his creation. Human through coordinated hard work and intelligent use of opportunities create wealth. Thus his/her heir has limited right on properties of the deceased. After the deceased, right on property goes to the spouse. And after the death of the spouse, the children has right on share of the property equally to the extent that the property do not suffer economic mismanagement because of the division. Immovable property should be with sons and movable property should go to the daughters.

Female heir is expected to be married and be part of a different family and thus has right on immovable property. However, if the female heir decides to remain spinster or is widowed, she will have equal share in the immovable property also as that of male child.

If equality cannot be maintained, the value of the total property should be determined and the daughter should be paid off the value of their share of the property before title of the property is changed. Respectable persons from the society may be invited to act as arbitrator to avoid any dispute about the division of the property. If any member of the heirs decides to sell of his/her share of the property, first opportunity to buy out the shares must go to the existing shareholders.

Law of the land will act as supreme in matter of distribution of the property if any irreconcilable dispute arise.

Q.116. How one can convert himself/herself to a good Hindu ?

Ans. Any one who wants to be a Hindu or to remain so need to follow the basic tenets of Hinduism and vow (i) that man and women are equally loved ones of *Ishwara* and none has additional right to enjoy life (ii) that *Ishwara* created all tribes of human races, animals and nature. No human race can exist against His will. And considering any human race as anti-*Ishwara* is foolish (iii) That *Ishwara* has given limbs and intellect to human beings

and thus human is required to work hard, responsibly, piously and compassionately to be eligible to have good living on earth and be eligible to go to heaven and to get eternal joy after death. (*Ishwara* is not responsible for the misdeeds or foolish acts of the human.) (iv) that a person should recite the fifteen Hymns (*Mantras*) twice daily, do *pranayam* at least once in a day for minimum ten minutes and arrange to take part in *Bhoj Utsav* (community dinners on full moon night after day long fast) (v) Be brave and hate all cowardice (vi) Study Gita and Veda when one needs guidance in life.

Those of you who shall work to spread your faith and protect your religion from the attackers to it, shall have surely comfort and pleasure in heaven.

THE VEDIC RELIGION OF HINDUISM

Veda recognizes no sin, it only recognizes error and the greatest error, says the Veda, is to treat one as weak and a sinner. Vedic religion or the religion of the Vedas, is the oldest stratum of religious activity known to have existed in the world.

In India, Veda is being recited since 18000 B.C. The Hindu religion is about a 20,000-year old religion and the starting point of religion in the civilized world. The religion was originally known as *Sanatana Dharma*, meaning eternal way of life.

Sanatana Dharma was undisturbed till 3500 B.C. Around 3500 B.C., India was invaded by riders from the north-western border of India. They called the Indians - "Hindus" i.e. civilization which flourished by the side of the river Sindhu. The name given by the rulers stuck. And the name, *Sanatana Dharma*, slowly came to be known as *Hindu Dharma/Hinduism*. *Sanatana* means eternal; *Dharma* means the good way of life.

From that time onward, it is believed that *Kaliyug* started and the Veda became somewhat impure by amalgamating ritualistic hymns.

Original Veda had a scientific philosophical base. The Vedic religion gave India its scientific and philosophic base and developed highly humanistic sense of values and compassion for all creations.

The strength of Veda lies in its miraculous power. It cures diseases and spreads a safety net around the family and friends of the regular recitor of the Veda. Till date many experiments have revealed the fact time and again but could not explain the reasons for the miracle.

Mass recitation of hymns from the Veda in public places has given life to terminally ill people on many occasions. It is believed that regular recitation and following the sayings of Veda bestows peace, tranquillity and success in all walks of life.

There are various statements as to the origin of the Vedas. One is that the hymns emanated like breath from Bramha. It is agreed that they were revealed orally to the sages. Veda reigned between 18000 B.C. and A.D. 1000 and then suddenly there was a vacuum. Today we have Vedas written

by Germans and British and they only deal with the ritual portion. The rise and duration of the Vedic schools cannot be precisely dated; tradition furnishes the names of several hundreds of Vedic schools but nothing is known about them beyond those few whose supposed texts survived, for example the *Aitareya* and *Shankhayana* schools, the *Rigveda* and the *Apastamba* school and the *Baudhayana* of the *Yajurveda* school. The most important texts are also the oldest. They are the four collections (*samhita*), which are called the *Veda* or *Vedas* (i.e. Books of Knowledge). In a broader sense, the term(s) *Vedas* also includes all or part of the latter literature, as these were based on one or another of the four *samhitas*. The four *Vedas* are *Rigveda*, *Samaveda*, *Yajurveda* and *Atharvaveda*.

The downfall of the Vedic religion was brought about by the invaders from Asia minor, Europe. They invaded the upper Indus basin sometime around 3500 B.C. Basic beliefs go back to the period of 1800 B.C. During 4500 B.C. to 3500 B.C. *Veda* influenced the Iranian religion before the Zoroastrians whose philosophy closely resembles that of Vedic India.

The original *Vedas* were monotheist in nature. It was forced to be intermingled with the Iranian method of Sun and Indra worship and sacrificial rituals. The exchange of religious ideas also gave glimpses of Indian gold reserves and wealth to foreigners and they came to India as invaders. They brought with them their customs and religion and forced it upon the locals. They raped, maimed and subjugated the local people.

Hindus always remained nonviolent and a champion of peaceful coexistence and never gave importance to discipline, martial art and self-defence. As a result Hindus were always weak and at the receiving end of the aggressors. Aggressors burnt major portion of the *Veda*. Some scholar's fled with *Veda* texts to extreme south or extreme north of India.

The *Rigveda*, or *Veda* of Verses, earliest of the *Samhitas* is composed of about 1,000 hymns addressed to the one God called *Ishwara* and denoted by "Om". Most of the hymns refer directly or indirectly to one being; but in general they have only a distant connection with the rituals. The *Rigveda* verses are intended for understanding of *Ishwara*.

The *Samaveda* or *Veda* of chants is made of a selection of verses drawn almost wholly from the *Rigveda* with musical notations, intended for

spreading *Ishwara's* message to the public in an attractive and pleasing manner. *Atharvaveda* deals mostly with worldly inter-personal relations and *Yajurveda* deals with rituals.

Next in probable chronological order come the *Brahmanas* commentaries. *Brahmanas* are not of any caste, they are books for recitation. These are prose texts, compiled separately from the various *Vedas* and serving to interpret their formulae or their rituals.

The *Aranyakas* or 'forest texts', composed in 12000 B.C. were intended to be studied in the forest, away from the community, because of their esoteric or magical character. They contain mostly symbolic interpretations of rituals or of the *mantras* (sacred formulae). Finally, the most important, are the *Upanishads* (16000 - 1000 B.C.).

These texts are generally very short and summarise a speculative teaching, often through parables or passages of dialogue for easy understanding of the moral of the story by the masses. Major *Vedic Upanishads* are thirteen in number; the rest (about 100) are post-vedic, though many of them are influenced by the *Vedas*.

The *Samhitas*, *Brahmanas*, *Aranyakas* and *Upanishads* are also known as the *shruti* (*sruti*), which is 'heard' or divinely revealed section of the literature. Reciting of *Vedas* gives a miraculous power. As a proof of this power, we may note that though India was subjugated by many foreign rulers for over thousands of years, Vedic India remained follower of Hinduism. Many other countries could not withstand the pressure of invaders' religion and got converted. Chanting of *Veda* gave Indians the super natural strength to remain unperturbed. Following few Vedic hymns may be read, realized and recited to appreciate Hindu Philosophy.

VEDA HYMNS

वेदोऽखिलो धर्ममूलम् ॥1॥

Vedoakhilo dharmamūlam.

The vedas are omniform dealing in all aspects of life and reality.

मधु मे जिह्वायां दधातु परमेश्वर ।
येनाऽहं सर्वप्रियः सर्वजनेभ्यः भूयासम् ॥2॥

Madhu me jihvāyāṁ dadhātu Parameśvara
yenāham sarvapriyah sarvajanebhyaḥ bhūyāsam.

Lord of Light ! Fill me with the sweetness of honey so that I may speak glorious words to the masses.

नासदासीन्नो सदासीत् तदानीं नासीद्रजो नो व्योमा परो यत् ।
किमावरीवः कुह कस्य शर्मन्नभः किमासीद् गहनं गभीरम् ॥
न मृत्युरासीदमृतं न तर्हि न रात्रया अह आसीत् प्रकेतः ।
आनीदवातं स्वधया तदेकं तस्माद्वान्यन्न परः किं चनास ॥
तम आसीत् तमसा गूढ्हमग्रे ऽप्रकेतं सलिलं सर्वमा इदम् ।
तुच्छयेनाभ्वपिहितं यदासीत् तपसस्तन्महिनाजायतैकम् ॥3॥

Nāsadāśinno sadāśīt tadānīṁ nāśīdrajo no vyomā paro yat
kimāvarīvah kuha kasya śarmannambhaḥ kimāśid gahanam gabhirām
na mrityurāśidamṛitam na tarhi na rātryā ahṇa āśīt praketah
ānīdavātam svadhyā tadekam tasmāddhānyanna paraḥ kiṁ canāsaḥ
tamah āśīt tamasā gūḍhamagre apraketam salilam sarvamā idam,
tucchayenābhvapihitam yadāśīt tapasastanmahinājāyataikam.

Neither nonexistence nor existence was manifest then (i.e. before creation, during dissolution), nor was there dust (earth), nor the great sky nor anything greater else beyond.

What veil then covered the all-pervading blissful ? Was it a vast mass of water thrown up by a conjuror ? How deep and unfathomable was that water ?

There was neither death nor immortality then, nor was there any sign of night or of day.

There, then, did exist one life principle but without breathing air, sustaining itself on its own power of sustenance and nothing apart from it did exist. Then there was the darkness (otherwise called Ignorance, Avidya, Maya) wrapped all around in deep darkness of unrecognition as if within one indiscriminate mass of water all around (wherein the seed of the universe of names and forms was yet to sprout forth).

When the all-pervading reality was veiled by that ignorance, devoid of essence and hence worthless, then out of the growing glory of that ignorance there emerged the one single being (called Prathamaja or Hiranyagarbha).

यत्राग्निश्चन्द्रमाः सूर्यो वातस्तिष्ठन्त्यार्पिताः
स्कम्भं तं ब्रूहि कतमः स्विदेव सः
यस्य त्रयस्त्रिंशददेवा अडेः सर्वे समाहिताः ॥4॥

Yatrāgnīścandramāḥ sūryo vātastiṣṭhantyarpitāḥ
skambham tam brūhi katamāḥ svideva saḥ
yasya trayastriṁśaddevā arge sarve samāhitā.

Who supports the universe; Who is that One Being on whom Agni, Chandrama, Surya and Vata rest ? In His reflected glory we have all the thirty-three devatas as variations of his manifestation.

पुण्डरीकं नवद्वारं त्रिभिर्गुरोभिरावृतम् ।
तस्मिन् यद् यक्षमात्मन्वत् तद् वै ब्रह्मविदो विदुः ॥5॥

Puṇḍarīkam navadvārān tribhirgurovirāvṛritam
tasmin yad yakṣamātmanvat tad vai brahmavido viduh.

The human body has nine doors (outlets). Three gunas (Sattva, Rajas Tama gunas) are inherent in the body, pervading and regulating it. The body has a heart likened to a lotus, wherein dwells the Spirit-to-worship. He who has realized Brahma knows that spirit as the Atma itself.

ईश्वरः परमैकस्वरूपः ॥

स नित्यः सर्वव्यापी विभुरनादिरनन्तश्च स निराकारो निरूपो वर्णनातीतो निष्कम्पश्च ।

द्वचित् शब्दरूपेण स आत्मानं प्रकाशयति स विधाता

कारणानां कारणं तथा सर्वशक्तिमान् तदिच्छापुरणाय कस्यापि सहायस्य प्रयोजनं न वर्तते
यतो द्वितीयः कोऽपि नास्ति ॥6॥

Īśhwaraḥ paramaikasvarūpah,

sa nityah sarvavyāpī vibhuranādiranantaśca sa
nirākāro nirūpo varṇanātīto niṣkampaśca.

kvacit śabdārūpeṇa sa ātmānam prakāśayati sa vidhātā
kāraṇānām kāraṇam tathā sarvaśaktimān tadicchāpuraṇāya kasyāpi
sahāyasya prayojanam na vartate
jato dvitīyah ko'pi nāstī.

Ishwara is one supreme entity. He is absolute, all pervading and eternal. He has no beginning and no end. He has no form, colour or description. Sometimes in the form of sound, He manifests Himself. He is the creator, the cause of causes. He is all-powerful and does not require help from anyone else to carry out his desire. Why ? None else but He ever exists.

केचित् तत्सायुज्यं लभन्ते, केचिच्च विरहेण वियुज्यन्ते ।
तस्येच्छया सर्वं घटते, तेन विना कः कार्यकरणे समर्थः ? ॥7॥

Kecit tatsāyujyam labhante, kecicca viraheṇa viyujyante,
tasyecchayā sarva ghatate, tena vinā kah kāryakaraṇe samarthah ?

Some attain His union, others depart in separation, all that He wishes does happen. Who else can do a thing ?

स वा एष महानज आत्माऽजरोऽमरोऽमृतोऽभयो

ब्रह्माभयं वै ब्रह्म भवति य एवं वेद ॥8॥

sa vā esa mahānaja ātmā ajaro amaro amrito-abhayo
brahmābhayaṁ vai brahma bhavati ya evam veda.

The atman is desireless, lacking nothing, fears no death; the atman is ageless, immortal and ever youthful. He who knows so becomes Brahma and as fearless.

एक एवास्ति नापरो विश्वभुवनस्य स्रष्टा ।
पालयिता च संहर्ता च पुनरपि सृजनाय तत्
एतदेव दिव्यत्वमीशस्य भास्वत् वर्चसममेयम् ॥११॥
eka evāsti nāparo viśvabhuvanasya sraṣṭā.
pālayitā ca sañiharttā ca punarapi srijanāya tat
etadeva divyatvamīśasya bhāsvat varcasamameyam.

There is one single being who creates the universe, maintains and destroys it to recreate it. This divinity is His splendor, immensely shining.

ईश्वरस्तस्यैव दूतरूपेण पृथिव्यां प्रेरयति देवान्
तस्माच्च प्रभवति मङ्गलं समासेनेह मनुष्यमण्डले ॥१०॥
Īśvrastasyaiva dūtarūpeṇa pṛithivyāṁ prerayati Devān
tasmācca prabhavati marigalam samāseneha manusyamaṇḍale.

Ishwara sends devas as his messengers to the world from whom good accrues to humanity.

यथाकामं वा उत्तिष्ठन् वा अनन्यमनसा स्तूयमानद्वा भगवन्तं
सायं प्रातश्च स्व-समाजेन सार्थं
प्रार्थनां कुर्वीताहर्निशं भगवत्-सकाशम् ॥
प्रार्थनया क्षीयते सर्वपापं प्राप्स्यते च स्वर्गं
भुयिष्ठं परिमार्जनेन लौहमलं यथा प्रयाति
अयद्वा भवति परिशुद्धम् ॥११॥

Yathākāmam vā uttiṣṭhan vā ananyamanasā stūyamānaśca bhagavantam
sayām prātaśca sva-samājena sārgham
prārthanām kurvītāharniśam Bhagavat-sakāśam
prārthanayā kṣīyate sarvapāpaṇ prāpsyate ca swargam
bhūyīṣṭham parimārjanena lauhamalam yathā prayāti
ayaśca bhavati pariśuddham.

Pray with sole concentration to Ishwara morning and evening preferably in standing position chanting Lord's praise with your community. Fare to paradise is prayer. As rust is removed by much polishing, sin is reduced by regular prayer.

सर्वेऽत्र जन्मना अमृतस्य पुत्रा अपापविद्वाश्च ते ।
द्वूचित् कल्मषं च कृत्वा केचिदात्मानं क्लेदयन्ति ॥12॥
sarveatra janmanā amṛitasya putrā apāpaviddhāśca te
kvacit kalmaṣam ca kṛitvā kecidātmānam kledayanti.

All creatures take birth as sin-less and full of nectar and maintain basic purity in its existence even if their own evil doings soil them over with impurity temporarily.

उच्चो वा नीचो वा न कोऽपि जनः ।
न च नितरां पापकृन् न वा पवित्रस्वरूपः ॥
ईश्वरकरुणया कद्गित् महत्वं लभते ।
तदिच्छया ऋद्धद्वा जायते कद्गित्,
श्रमेण तु कद्गिदभ्येति पदमुन्नतम् ॥13॥
Ucco vā nīco va na ko'pi janaḥ
na cha nitarām pāpakṛin na vā pavitrasvarūpaḥ
Īśvarakarunayā kaścit mahatyam labhate.
Tadicchayā ṛiddhaścha jāyate kaścit,
śrameṇa tu kaścidabhyeti padamunnatam.

No human is high or low, no man is a condemned sinner or a sanctified being. By Ishwara's grace one obtains greatness. By his will some are born prosperous and others have to work for it.

यत्र यत्र मे मनो गच्छति दृश्यते प्रभुम् ।
तस्य कृपां विना न कोऽपि मुक्तिमर्हति ॥14॥
Yatra yatra me mano gacchatī dṛiṣyate Prabhūm
tasya kṛipām vinā na ko'pi muktimarhati.

Whichever way one looks, one finds Ishwara, the Lord. None has won salvation without His grace.

अक्लेशेन वै सम्भवति ईश्वरस्य गुणकीर्तनम्,
तदगुणानां च निरूपणं तु क्लेशकरमेव प्रतीयते ।
गुरोः कृपया एव तज् ज्ञानमेवाधिगम्यते ॥15॥

akleśena vai sambhavati Īśvarasya guṇakīrtanam
tadguṇānāṁ ca nirūpaṇam tu kleśakaram eva pratīyate.
guroḥ kṛipayā eva taj jñānamevādhigamyate.

It is easy to repeat the praise of Ishwara but difficult to fathom the mystery of it. If, through the favour of a Guru (spiritual teacher) it gets ingrained in the mind, one reaps the fruit easily.

वेनस्तत्पश्यन्निदितं गुहा सद्यत्र विश्वं भवत्येकनीडम् ।
यस्मिन्निदं सं च विचैति सर्वं स ओतः प्रोतश्च विभूः प्रजासु ॥16॥
venastatpaśynnihitam guha saddatra viśvanām bhavatyekanīḍam
yasminnidam sam ca vicaiti sarvam sa otah protaśca bibhu prajāsu.

The One is the Lord of all that moves and that is fixed, of what walks, what swims, what flies. In the Universe all unites, from that all these emerges.

अमोघाशिषस्तस्मिन्नेव सदैव सन्ति परमेश्वरस्य ।
यो जानाति दुःखत्रयजर्जरो मनुष्येह संसारे ॥
स एव ज्ञातुमर्हति दुःखत्रयस्य हेतवद्वा परानिवृत्तेरुपायद्वा तस्य
स वै विजानाति संसारसागरस्य गहनं रहस्यम् ॥17॥
amoghāśiṣṭastasminneva sadaiva santi Parameśvarasya
yo jānāti duḥkhatrayajarjaro manusyeha saṃsāre
sa eva jñātumarhati duḥkhatrayasya hetavaśca parānivṛitterupāyaśca tasya
sa vai vijānāti saṃsārasāgarasya gahanān̄ rahasyam

Ishwara has blessed him who has recognized the existence of suffering, its causes, its remedy and its cessation, He has fathomed the true nature of earthly existence.

वेदपठनं, पुरोहितेभ्यो दानं, यज्ञस्तापशीतादिकैरात्मपीड़नम्
अमृतत्वलाभाय तपश्चरणमित्यादिकं मोहग्रस्तं परिशुद्धं न करोति ॥18॥

Vedapāṭhanam̄, purohitebhyao dānam̄,
yajñastāpasitādikairātmapidanam
amṛitat̄valābhāya tapaścaraṇamityādikam̄
mohagrastam̄ pariśuddham̄ na karoti.

Reading the Vedas, making offerings to priests or sacrifices to Ishwara, self-mortification by heat or cold and many such penances performed for the sake of immortality, do not cleanse the man who is not free from delusions.

श्रद्धया पूजितो वै ईश्वरोऽस्मत्प्रार्थनां पूरयति ।
हे प्रियतम ! तवैव सुरक्षाश्रितानां श्रुभैषणां च गृहाण ॥19॥
śraddhayā pūjito vai Īśvarosmatprārthanām̄ pūrayati
He priyatama ! tavaiva surakṣāśritānām̄ śrubhaiṣanām̄ ca grihāṇa.

Worshipped by us with our homage, Ishwara, accepts each prayer of ours. Placing ourselves under your protection, O Most Beloved, accept our all pure desires.

अन्तज्ञारन्ति मनसि कामास्तेभ्यो उदितानि
सर्वाणि चेष्टितानि कर्माणि इहलोके ॥
एतान् कामान् विलोक्यते विधात्रा ईशलोके
नराणां शुभाशुभ-कर्मफल-विधानकाले ॥
तीक्ष्णभाषणरताज्ञा ये ये चातिदर्पपरायणाः
तेषां कृते स्वर्गो भवति पराङ्मुखः सर्वदा ॥20॥
Antaścaranti manasi kāmāstebhyo uditāni
sarvāṇi tueṣṭitāni karmāṇi ihaloke
etān kāmān vilokyate vidhātrā īśaloke
Narāṇām̄ śubhāśubha-karmaphala-vidhānakāle
Tīkṣṇabhāṣaṇaratāśca ye ye cātidarpaparāyāṇāḥ
Teṣām kṛite swargo bhavati parāṇmukhaḥ sarvadā.

In the kingdom of Ishwara all actions are judged by the motives prompting them. The proud will not enter the heaven of Ishwara, nor a violent speaker.

नायमात्मा प्रवचनेन लभ्यो न मेधया न बहुना श्रुतेन ।
यमेवैष वृणुते तेन लभ्यस्तस्यैष आत्मा विवृणुते तनूं स्वाम् ॥21॥

Nāyamātmā pravacanena labhyah na medhayā na bahunā śrutenā
yamevaīṣa vṛiṇute tena labhyastasyaiṣa ātmā vivṛiṇute tanum svām.

One cannot comprehend Ishwara through explanatory discourses
nor by intellectual power nor by listening to sayings in many ways.
To him He appears in his full splendour, whom he accepts with
love. Only he can reach and realize Him.

शुभैषणा सत्यमक्रोधद्वा शुद्धता सत्यवादिता
प्रेम-दयादिगुणैरन्विताद्वा ये जनाः ईश्वरस्तेषां प्रसीदति ॥22॥

śubheṣaṇā satyamakrodhaśca śuddhatā satyavāditā
Prema-dayādiguṇernvitāśca ye janāḥ Īśvarasteṣāṁ prasidati.

Ishwara loves traits of goodwill, love, truthfulness, purity and kindness in
your character.

यावन्नैव आस्था ईश्वरे भवति पूर्णा
तावन्नाकपृष्ठं च भवति सुदुस्तरम् ।
सा आस्था च तावन्न याति पूर्णतां यावदास्तिकेषु न जायते प्रीतिः ॥23॥

Yāvannaiva āsthā Īśvare bhavati pūrṇā
tāvannākapriṣṭham ca bhavati sudustaram.
sā āsthā ca tāvanna yāti pūrṇatām yāvadāstikeṣu na jāyate prītiḥ.

You will not enter paradise until you have faith, and you will not complete
your faith till you love all those who believe in Ishwara.

प्रतिनियतं प्रार्थनां कुर्वीत सदा तदर्थभावनया सह ।
ततो वै दृश्यते भगवद्भासं भाग्यश्रीदा भवति प्रसन्ना ॥24॥

Pratiniyatam prarthanam kurvita sadā tadarthabhāvanayā saha
tato vai dṛisvate bhagavadubhāsam bhāgyaśrīca bhavati prasannā.

Continue your regular prayers for fortune smiles on them to whom the light of the Ishwara is revealed.

दर्शन-गणितशास्त्रपारगानां भगवत्-प्रेषितमहाजनानां
प्रतिबोधसुकरं तु भगवत्-सृष्टिरहस्यं गहनं गभीरम् ॥
यद्मा यस्य धर्ममार्गस्ततः प्रतीपगमनमीश्वरस्यासहनीयम् ॥25॥
darsana-ganitasāstrapāragānām bhagavat-presitamahājanānām
prativodhasukaram tu bhagavat-sriṣṭi-rahasyam gahanam gabhiram.
yaśca yasya dharmamārgastataḥ pratīpagamanamīśvarasyāsahanīyam.

It is easier for philosophers, mathematicians and messiahs to fathom the depth of Ishwara's creation. He tolerates no deviation from righteousness.

पापरहिताद्मा भूत्वा श्रद्धया सेवामहे ईश्वरं नित्यम् ।
महान् वै ईश्वरो धीहीनानां धियं यः प्रचोदयति ॥
तद्वदिहलोके वर्तते यः प्राज्ञो धी-सम्पत्समृद्धः ।
स एव नयेत् सुपथा यावदल्पज्ञान् जनान् पृथिव्याम् ॥26॥

pāparahitāśca bhūtvā śraddhayā sevāmahe īśvaraṁ nityam.
Mahān vai īśvaro dhīhīnānām dhiyam yaḥ pracodayati.
Tadvadihaloke varttate yaḥ prājño dhī-sampatsamriddhah
sa eva nayet supathā yāvalpalajñān janān pṛithivyām.

May we, becoming free from sin, devotedly serve the Ishwara. The noble Ishwara rouses the intelligence of the unthinking. Likewise one who is wise with intellectual wealth here in this world should lead other people having less knowledge along the path of righteousness.

ईश्वरस्य महद् दानं विवेको विद्यते नृणाम् ।
 तस्मादधिकतरं समर्थसाधनमिष्टतरं वा न किंचनास्ति
 तत्त्वबोधाय सम्यक् ॥27॥

Īśvarasya mahad dānam viveko vidyate nṛiṇām
 tasmādadhitaram samarthaśādhanamiṣṭataram vā na kiṁcanāsti
 tattvavidhāya samyak.

Ishwara's greatest gift to human is his reasoning and nothing is more perfect or more desirable than reason to realize truthfully.

नगत्त एव धरामेति, नगत्त प्रतिगच्छति ।
 यद् दैवविहितं कर्म ततु साध्यं प्रयतत्तः ॥28॥

Nagna eva dharāmeti, nagnaśca pratigacchatte
 yad daivavihitam karma tattu sādhyam prayatnataḥ.

One comes naked into the world and departs also naked. One must work to match one's destiny as divinity ordained.

स एव सुखी सदैव यः स्वार्थपरतामत्येति सर्वशः
 सत्यं तेनैव लब्धं शान्तिः शाश्वती तेनैव चाप्ता ॥29॥

Sa eva sukhī sadaiva yaḥ svārthaparatāmatyetyeti sarvaśah
 satyam tenaiva lavdham śāntiḥ śāśvati tenaiva cāptā.

Happy is he who has overcome all selfishness; attained peace and has found the truth.

जीवनं यथाप्तं तदेव वरेण्यमिति विचिन्त्य
 गतासूनां च पूरणशक्यं धर्मानुगं यस्य जीवितम् ।
 जरया पीड्यमानोऽपि यस्तामभिनन्दति च
 तेनैव लभ्यं भगवत्-प्रसादं दीर्घमायुज्ञोति ध्रुवम् ॥30॥

Jīvanam yathāptam tadeva varenyamiti vicintya
 gatāsūnām ca pūraṇaśakyam dharmānugam yasya jīvitam
 jarayā pīḍyamāno'pi yastāmabhinandati ca
 tenaiva labhyam Bhagavat-prasādaṁ dīrghamāyuśceti dhruvam.

Accept life, welcomming old age, all of you striving one behind the other filling the gap made by death. May Ishwara, give you healthy and long life.

ये विश्वासनिर्वाहिं कुर्वन्ति स्ववचनात् कदापि न प्रविचलन्ति
ईश्वरनामा कृतां प्रतिज्ञां निर्वाहयन्ति ते वै विश्वास-परायणाः ॥31॥

Ye viśvāsanirvāham kurvanti svavacanāt kadāpi na pravicalanti
Īśvaranāmnā kṛitām pratijñām nirvāhayanti te vai viśvāsa-parāyanāḥ.

The faithful are those who perform their trust and fail not in their word and keep their pledge to Ishwara.

प्रीतिं विना भगवद्भक्तेषु श्रद्धा नैव परिपूर्यते
श्रद्धां विना नूनं भवति स्वर्गप्रवेशो दुष्करः ॥32॥
Prītim vinā Bhagavadbhakteṣu śraddhā naiva paripūryate
śraddhām vinā nūnam bhavati svargaḥ praveṣa duskaraḥ.

You will not enter paradise unless you have reverence of Ishwara; and you will not complete your reverence till you love all creations of Ishwara.

यदा सन्तोषमाप्नोति सत्कार्येण असत्कार्येण क्लिश्यति
तदैव हि भवेन्नरः सत्यं सत्यमीश्वरास्थितः ॥33॥
Yadā santosamāpnoti satkāryeṇa asatkāryeṇa kliṣyati
Tadaiva hi bhavennarah satyanām satyamīśvarāsthitah.

When your good work gives you pleasure and your evil work grieves you, you are true to Ishwara.

अनं यो ददाति बुभुक्षितेभ्यः पीडितानं भवति सहायकः
दुःखार्तान् समाश्लिष्यति तस्यैव ईशः प्रसीदति ॥34॥
Annanām yo dadāti bubhūkṣitebhyah pīḍitānām bhavati sahāyakah
duḥkhārtān samāśliṣyati tasyaiva īśah prasīdati.

Ishwara is glad when you gladden the heart of a human being, when you feed the hungry, when you help the afflicted and lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful and remove the wrongs done to the injured.

क्षन्तव्याः सर्वजीवाद्मा नापि शप्तव्या अरातयश्च ।

एवं ये मन्यन्ते तेषां प्रसीदति केशवः ॥35॥

Kṣamīntavyāḥ sarvajīvāśca nāpi śaptavyā arātayaśca
evam̄ ye manyante teṣāṁ prasīdati Keśavah.

Show mercy and do not curse your adversary and then Kesava is glad.

यद् ददाति दक्षिणहस्तेन तन्न वामो विजानीयात् ।

एवं समाचरेत् बुध एष ईशानुशासनम् ॥36॥

Yad dadāti dakṣiṇahastena tanna vāmo vijānīyat.
evam̄ samācaren budha eṣa iśvānuśāsanam.

The best of alms is that which right hand gives and the left hand knows not of. So live likewise. That is what Ishwara ordains.

परत्र प्रयाते नरे कर्म च तस्य नूनं विरमति इहलोके ।

तथापि तस्य त्राण-दान-यानप्रसारणादि सुकृतस्य कीर्त्या

सुचिरं जीवति स हृदयेषु जनानां प्रीत्या च तमनुचरन्ति जनाः ॥

येन केन प्रकारेण को हि नाम नु जीवति ।

परेषामुपकारार्थं यज्जीवति स जीवति ॥37॥

Paratra prayāte nare karma ca tasya nūnam viramati ihaloke

tathāpi tasya trāṇa-dāna-jānaprasāraṇādi sukṛitasya kīrttyā

suciram̄ jīvati sa hṛidayeṣu janānām prītyā ca tamanucaram̄ti janāḥ

yena kena prakārena ko hi nāma nu jīvati

pareṣāmupakārārtham̄ yajjīvati sa jīvati.

In the realm of Ishwara when a man dies, his work stops but his act of charity continues, his spread of knowledge goes on helping the creation and his righteousness keeps a following for him. One may live by any means whatsoever. But one who lives for the good of others lives one's life really truly.

ईश्वरसृष्टौ जगति क्रोधद्वेषौ दूरतः परिहर ।
 यतो हि द्वावेतौ मनुष्याणां सुकृतं ग्रसतः निर्मूलयतद्वा
 यथा अगित्तर्न्धनं दहति भस्मीभूतं करोति च ॥38॥

Īśvarasrīṣṭau jagati krodhadveṣau dūrataḥ pariha
 yato hi dvāvetai manusyāñām sukṛitam̄ grasataḥ nirmūlayataśca
 yathā agnirindhanam̄ dahati bhasmībhūtam̄ karoti ca.

In Ishwara's realm keep yourselves far from envy and anger because these eat up and take away good actions as fire eats up and burns the wood.

माता तु सदा स्नेहार्द्धचित्ता नितरां सन्तान-वत्सला ।
 सादरं यथा क्रोडे गृहणाति रोरुद्यमानं निजपुत्रम् ॥
 ईश्वरस्तु सदा भक्तवत्सलः करुणाघनविग्रहः ।
 आत्मनि गृहणाति तथा भक्तस्य श्रद्धया कृतां स्तुतिम् ॥39॥

Mātā tu sadā snehārdracittā nitarām̄ santāna-vatsalā
 sādaram̄ yathā kroḍe gṛihṇāti rurudyamānam̄ nijaputram.
 Īśvarastu sadā bhaktavatsalah̄ karuṇāghanavigrahaḥ
 ātmani gṛihṇāti tathā bhaktasya śraddhayā kṛitām̄ stutim.

As the mother, always full of affection, takes into her lap her crying son with love and care, so does Ishwara, mercy incarnate, ever-loving His devotees, accepts their hymns of love devotedly sung to Him.

इन्द्रं मित्रं वरुणमगित्माहुरथो दिव्यः स सुपर्णो गरुत्मानः ।
 एकं सद् विप्रा बहुधा वदन्त्यगिहं यमं मातरिश्वानमाहुः ॥40॥
 Indram̄ mitram̄ varuṇamagnimāhuratho divyaḥ sa suparṇo garutmānḥ
 ekam̄ sad viprā bahudhā vadantyagnim̄ yamarā mātariswānamāhuḥ.

Speak of Indra, Mitra, Varuna, Agni and the divine Gurutman. They are reflection of one Reality which the sages call by many names — Agni, Yama, Matarisvan etc.

उषाकाले अनुदये संध्यायां चास्तमिते रवौ देवं समुपासीत मन्दिरे ।
ध्यायमानद्वा तस्य महिमानं देवस्य सायुज्यं प्रार्थय समाजेन सह ॥41॥

Uṣākāle anudaye saṁdhyāyāṁ cāstamite rabau
Devam̄ samupāśīta mandire
dhyāyamānaśca tasya mahimānaṁ
Devasya sāyujyam̄ prārthaya samājena saha.

At the ambrosial hour of early dawn and in the evening after sundown,
have communion with the Divine through prayer and meditate on His glory
with members of the community in the temple.

यस्यापि प्रेमातिशयमस्ति ईश्वरदर्शनायाचिरात् ।
ईश्वरस्यापि प्रेमातिशयं भवति स्वरूपप्रदर्शनाय तम् ॥42॥
Yasyāpi premātiśayamasti Īśvaradarśanāyācirāt
Īśvarasyāpi premātiśayan̄ bhavati swarūpapradarśanāya tam.

Whoever loves to meet Ishwara, Ishwara loves to meet him.

यत्र यत्रापि पृथिव्यां वर्तते विद्वान् भगवत्सेवकोत्तमः ।
ज्ञानान्वेषणाय गन्तव्यं तत्तत् स्थानं तीर्थभूतं पवित्रम् ॥43॥
Yatra yatrāpi pṛithivyāṁ varttate vidvān Bhagavatsevakottamah
jñānānveṣaṇāya gantavyam̄ tattat sthānam̄ tīrthabhūtam̄ pavitram.

In quest of knowledge go to any corner of earth where a learned man may stay; for a knowledgeable person serves Ishwara well. Even his site is good.

ज्ञानमाहर, ज्ञानवान् वै सदसद्विवेकमेति ।
ऋतं च चरितुं शक्नुयान् मर्त्ये, गतिनिर्देशमाप्नुयात् च स्वर्गलोके ॥44॥
Jñānamāhara, jñānavān vai sadasadvivekameti
ṛitam ca caritum śaknuyān martye, gatinirdeśamāpnuyāt ca svargaloke.

Acquire knowledge, it enables its possessor to distinguish right from wrong and helps to take the right decision on earth and heaven.

तिष्ठास्मिन् जगत्यां नलिनीदलगतजलबिन्दुवत्
 वित्तं वर्धय, मा भव तदासक्तः
 कथं त्वमिह ईश्वरेण प्रेरितो यदि न कर्तुं जगत् ऋद्धतरम् ! 45॥

Tiṣṭhāsmi jagatyāṁ nalinīdalagatajalavinduvat
 vittam̄ vardhaya, mā bhava tadāsaktaḥ.

Katham̄ tvamiha Īśvareṇa prerito yadi na karttum̄ jagat ḥiddhataram !

Be in the world like a drop of water on a lotus leaf, create wealth but do not get attached to it for Ishwara has sent you to make the world richer.

यदि भवति अन्विष्टं शाश्वतमानन्दम्,
 भूमानन्दस्वरूपात् प्रार्थय आनन्दमशुते ध्रुवम् ॥46॥
 Yadi bhavati anviṣṭam̄ śāśvatamānandam
 Bhūmānandasvarūpāt prārthaya ānandamaśnute dhruvam.

Whoever searches for eternal joy, let him seek that from the all-pervading spirit through prayer.

यस्याचाराः नीतिधर्मनियताद्विन्नान्तनं च उत्तमं तत्त्वविकाशकरम्
 पितरौ तथाचार्याद्वा यस्मात् पूजां च सेवां च यथाविधिप्राप्ताः
 यस्तु स्व-दोषारां विशेषधनाय स्वयमेव यतते सर्वदा
 स भवति ईश्वरस्य परमप्रेमप्रसादभाजनमिति न संशयः ॥47॥
 Yasyācārāḥ nītidharmaniyatāścintanām ca uttamām tattvavikāśakaram
 pitarau tathācāryāśca yasmāt pūjā ca sevā ca yathāvidhiprāptāḥ
 yastu sva-doṣāṇ viśodhanāya svayameva yataste sarvadā
 sa bhavati Īśvarasya paramapremaprasādabhājanamiti na samiśayah.

Ishwara loves him who observes the percepts of morality, cultivates and develops good thoughts, honour and nurses parents, teachers and rectifies his own faults.

महद वै सत्यं मधुमच्च, सत्ये स्थिते पापान्मुच्यते
सत्याद् बलवत्तरो न कद्गिदपि त्राता विद्यते भूतले ॥48॥

Mahat vai satyam madhumacca, satye sthite pāpānmucyate
satyād valavattaro na kaścidapi trātā vidyate bhutale.

Truth is noble and sweet; truth can deliver you from evil. There is no saviour in the world stronger than truth.

मनो हि सर्वकरणानं ज्येष्ठं च श्रेष्ठं च ।
मनःप्रभवा हि प्रवृत्तिराद्या चेष्टितानां कर्मणाम् ॥
सर्वे भावपदार्थाद्वा मनस्येव प्रजायन्ते ॥49॥

Mano hi sarvakaraṇānāṁ jyeṣṭham ca śreṣṭham ca
manahprabhavā hi pravṛittirādyā ceṣṭitānām karmaṇām.
Sarve bhāvapadārthāśca manasyeva prajāyante.

Mind is the forerunner of all activities; mind is the highest of all sensory powers. All concepts have their origin in the mind.

ईश्वरस्य जीवानां हितार्थं य उत्सृजति जीवनं कर्म च
स भवतु प्रेमास्पदं सर्वजनानाम् ।
ईश्वरे तु संशयो यस्य स भवतु घृणाभाजनम् ॥50॥
Īśvarasya jīvānām hitārtham ya utsṛijyati jīvanam karma ca
sa bhavatu premāspadanām sarvajanānām
Īśvare tu samśayām yasya sa bhavatu ghrinābhājanam.

Love him who dedicates his life and work to Ishwara's creation and hate him who doubts Him.

ईश्वरे परलोके च यस्यास्ति दृढमतिः ।
तेन न कर्तव्यं हिंसनं प्रतिवेशिनं कायेन मनसा वापि ॥51॥
Īśvare paraloke ca yasyāsti dṛidhamatiḥ
tena na kartavyam himsanām prativeśinām kāyena manasā vāpi.

Those who believe in Ishwara and the life beyond, let him not injure his neighbour physically or mentally.

प्रतिवेशिनां कमपि क्षुधार्तं पश्यन् तमभुक्तं त्यक्त्वा
धार्मिको जनः स्वयं तु भुरिभोजनं कर्तुं न शक्नोति ॥५२॥

Prativeśināṁ kamapi kṣudhārttaṁ paśyan tamabhuktam tyaktvā
dhārmiko janah svayam tu bhuribhojanam karttum na śaknoti.

A true religious person will not leave his neighbours hungry and eat to his.

जिह्वा यस्य मर्मघातिनी निन्द्यवाग्भाषणरता ।
यो भवति सदा परपीडन-शोषण-प्रवृत्तिमनस्कः ॥
धर्मानुष्ठानादपि न तस्य निष्कृतिः स्यात् कदाचन ।
न कुत्रापि तस्य हिताय प्रायद्विात्तोऽपि विधीयते ॥५३॥

Jihvā yasya marmaghātinī nindyabākbhāṣaṇaratā
yo bhavati sadā parapīḍana-śoṣaṇa-pravṛittimanaskah
dharmānuṣṭānādapi na tasya niṣkṛtiḥ syāt kadācana
na kutrāpi tasya hitāya prāyaścitto'pi vidhīyate.

The exercise of religious duties will not atone for the fault of an abusive tongue and an exploitative mind.

प्राज्ञद्वा विचक्षणद्वा स एवास्ते संयता यस्येन्द्रियभोगवासना
यस्यास्ति च पारितोषिके विरक्तिः ॥
स वै मोहान्धकारे निमग्नः अन्धवदज्ञः प्रचरति संसारे
यो भोगलालसापूरणे ताडितोऽपि क्षमां याचते ईश्वरान्मृषा ॥५४॥

Prājñāśca vicakṣaṇāśca sa evāste
samyatā yasyendriyabhogavāsanā
yasyāsti ca pāritoṣike viraktih.
sa vai mohāndhakāre nimagno andhavadajñāḥ pracarati samśāre
yo bhogalālasāpūraṇe tāḍito'pi kṣamāṁ yācate Īśvarānmṛiṣā.

That person is wise and sensible who controls his physical desires and abhors rewards. He is an ignorant man who follows his lustful appetite and prays in vain for God to forgive him.

कुतद्धिद् देशादागतं वा कस्चन जनजातिजातं वा
ईश्वरादभयप्रार्थिनं शरणार्थिनमाश्रयः प्रदेयः, मंगलं च विधेयम् ॥55॥

Kutaścid deśādāgataṁ vā kāscana janajātijātam vā
Īśvarādabhayaaprārthinaṁ śaraṇārthinaṁāśrayam
pradeyaṁ maṅgalam ca vidheyam.

Whoever from any part of the world or from whatever tribe seeks God's protection from fear and seeks refuge, give him that and do good to him so that he feels safe and comfortable.

ईश्वरे केवलं भयं कुर्वाणः सर्वापदि विपदि चैव
न कस्मादपरात् स बिभेति निर्भयं जीवतीति ध्रुवम् ॥56॥
Īśvaram kevalam bhayam kurvāṇah sarvāpadi vipadi caiva
na kasmādaparāt sa vibheti nirbhayaṁ jīvatīti dhruvam.

One who fears God alone will neither fear anyone else nor any adversity and danger.

अतिप्राकृतक्रियासिद्धाद्मा ईश्वरस्य मांगल्यवार्तावहाद्मा केवलम् ।
ते च श्रद्धार्हास्तथापि उपास्यस्तु एक एवाद्वितीयः परमेश्वरः ॥57॥
Atiprākṛitakriyāsiddhāśca īśvarasya
māngalyavārttāvahāśca kevalam
te ca śraddhārḥā stathāpi upāsyastu eka evādvitīyah Parameśvarah.

Persons able to do miracles are only Ishwara's messengers of good news. They should be respected but worship is reserved for Paramesvara, the only one Supreme Being.

विभवे सति तु यो नृशंसो विधिं विहाय चरति जीवनम् ।
अन्यायवृत्तद्वा भिक्षामाददाति तं प्रति ईश्वरो भवति पराङ्मुखः ॥58॥

Vibhave sati tu yo nr̄iśam̄so vidhim vihāya carati jīvanam
anyāyavṛittaśca bhikṣāmādadātī tam̄ prati
Īśvaro bhavati parānimukhah.

Ishwara withholds Himself from a man who is heartless and lives disregarding moral rules, wrongs others and even if wealthy, is prone to begging.

क्लान्तानां हृदयं य आलादयति आर्तानां क्लेशं च ।
यो दूरीकरोति स स्वर्गस्य लभते राजमार्गम् ॥59॥

Klāntānām hṛidayam̄ ya āhlādayati arttānām kleśam̄ ca
yo dūrīkaroti sa svargasya labhate rājamārgam.

He who gladdens the heart of the weary, removes the suffering of the afflicted, gets a shorter road to paradise.

यः समर्थयते विश्वस्तानाआर्तानां च सहायकः ।
स पश्येत् स्वर्गद्वारमपावृतमीश्वरमपि सहायकम् ॥60॥

Yah samarthyate viśvastānārttānām ca sahāyakah
Sa paśyet svargadvāramapavṛitamiśvaramapi sahāyakam.

He who helps the believers of Ishwara in the hour of need and he who helps the oppressed, him will Ishwara help in the gateway of paradise.

पृष्ठघातो व्यभिचारादपि भयंकरः । ईश्वरः पृष्ठघातिनं
तावन् न क्षमते यावदेवाहतस्य क्षमामसौ न लभेत ॥61॥

Priṣṭhaghāto vyabhicārādapi bhayaṁkarah. Īśvaraḥ priṣṭhaghātinam̄
tāvan na kṣamate yāvadevāhatasya kṣamāmasau na labheta.

Backbiting is more grieveous than adultery. Ishwara will not pardon the backbiter until the victim pardons him of that.

यस्तु नाचरति भैक्ष्यं परिश्रमेण तु अर्जयति
स्वजीविकां पुरुषस्य तस्य ईश्वरः प्रसीदति ॥62॥

Yastu nācarati bhaikṣyam pariśrameṇa tu arjayati
svajīvikāṁ puruṣasya tasya Īśvaraḥ prasīdati.

Ishwara is gracious to him who earns his living by his own-labour and not by begging.

यो ददाति अन्नं स्वजनाय स तवानुगत्यमर्हति
विरोधस्तेन सह क्रियते चेत् ईश्वरो भवति विरक्तः ॥63॥

Yo dadāti annam svajanāya sa tavānugatyamarhati
virodhistena saha kriyate cet Īśvaro bhavati viraktaḥ.

Giver of food to your family deserves your loyalty and rebelling against him is annoying to Ishwara.

धनवान् पश्यतु धनवत्तरमुत्तरोत्तरम् ।
दरिद्रोऽपि पश्यतु दरिद्रतरमधः क्रमम् ।
एवमेव विचार्यस्तारतम्येन ईश्वर-प्रसादः ॥64॥

Dhanavān paśyatu dhanabattaramuttarottaram
daridro'pi paśyatu daridrataramadhaḥ kramam.
Evameva vicāryastāratamyena Īśvara-prasādah.

A wealthy person should look to his superior and poor to poorer person and thus the grace of Ishwara can be adjudged distinctively.

कामी इन्द्रियदासोऽस्ति कामभोगलालसा नीचत्वं नयति ।
तिष्ठ जगति पृथपत्रमिवांम्भसा। एतद्वै ईश्वरानुशासनम् ॥65॥

Kāmī indriyadāso'sti kāmabhogalālasā nīcatvam nayati
tiṣṭha jagati padmapatramivāmbhasā. Etadvai Īśvarānuśāsanam.

Over sensual man is a slave to his passions, pleasure seeking is degrading. Ishwara ordains man to remain like the petals of a lotus (surrounded by water without getting wet).

विषयसुखत्यागो वा समाजं प्रति यत् कर्तव्यं
 तत् त्यागो नैव त्यागः ईश्वरप्रीरितः:
 कामपाशविमोचनमिति त्यागः ईश्वरसम्मतः ॥66॥
 Viṣayasukhatyāgo vā samājaṁ prati yat karttavyam
 tat tyāgo naiva tyāga Iśvaraprīrita
 kāmapāśavimocanamiti tyāga Iśvarasammata.

Abstinence of material comfort and abandoning of social responsibilities are not dear to Ishwara, He only appreciates one's being free from the stranglehold of desire.

सत्यं यस्य व्रतोपवासः सन्तोषः तीर्थभूतः ।
 दिव्यज्ञानं ध्यानं च यज्ञस्वरूपम् ॥
 दया च प्रतिमा यस्य क्षमा वै जपमाला ।
 तस्य प्रसीदति ईश्वरः पुरतो नित्यम् ॥67॥
 Satyam yasya vratopavāsa santoshaḥ tīrthabhūtaḥ
 divyajñānam dhyānam ca yajñāsvarūpam
 dayā ca pratimā yasya kṣamā vai japamālā
 tasya prasīdati Iśvaraḥ purato nityam.

They who make truth their fasting, contentment their place of pilgrimage, divine knowledge and meditation their ablutions, mercy their images and forgiveness their rosary are foremost in Ishwara's favour.

हिंसनात् स्तेयादनृतात् विरतो भव । एष ईश्वरादेशः ॥68॥
 Hiṁsanāt steyādanṛitāt virato bhava. Eṣa Iśvarādesaḥ.

Ishwara ordains you to abstain from killing, stealing and lying.

ईश्वरं मा दूषय। स्वयं विचारय ।
स्वकृत-पापप्रजातं वै सर्वं तव दुःखभोगम् ॥69॥

Īśvaraṁ mā dūṣaya. Svayaṁ vicāraya.

Svakṛita-pāpaprajātām vai sarvam tava duḥkhabhogam.

Do not blame it on Ishwara, judge yourself about the sins you have committed to deserve the sufferings.

ईश्वरं न दूषय यदि तव वारिणा परिपूरितो दीपः अन्धकारं न दूरीकरोति
यदि वा विनष्टेन्धनेनागित्यज्जलनस्य प्रचेष्टा विफला भवति ॥70॥

Īśvaraṁ na dūṣaya yadi tava vāriṇā paripūrito
dīpoh andhakārām na dūrīkaroti

yadi va vinastendhanenāgniprajjvalanasya praceṣṭa viphalā bhavati.

Do not blame Ishwara if you filled your lamp with water that did not dispel the darkness, or when you tried to light a fire with rotten wood and failed.

यावत् तृष्णा स्थिता नृषु संसारसुखभोगस्य
तावद् वृथा तपद्वार्या ईश्वरलाभाय यदि वा कृता ॥71॥

Yāvat tṛiṣṇā sthitā nrīṣu saṃsārasukhabhogasya
tāvad vṛithā tapaścaryā Īśvaralābhāya yadi vā kṛitā.

Till self continues to lust after wordly pleasures, moritiification is in vain even in the cause of Ishwara.

प्राणरक्षार्थमावश्यकीयदव्यजातस्य भोगो न तु पापम् ।
शारीरं स्वास्थ्यरक्षणं सदैव कर्तव्यं धर्मसाधनार्थम् ॥
तेन वै वर्तते प्रोज्ज्वलः प्रज्ञाप्रदीपः साध्यते चाघकृत्प्रतिरोधः ॥72॥

Prāṇarakṣārthamāvaśyakīyadravyajātasya bhogo na tu pāpam
śārīram svāsthyaarakṣaṇam sadaiva karttavyam dharmasādhanārtham
tena vai varttate projvalah prajñāpradīpaḥ
sādhya cāghakṛitpratirodh.

To satisfy the necessities of life is not evil. To keep the body in good health is a duty, for otherwise one shall not be able to keep burning the lamp of wisdom, or resist even an evil-doer.

बोधे वा चिन्तायां कर्मणि वाचि वा
जीविकार्जने वा चेष्टायां शुद्धिलक्षणा स्यात्
सफला प्रार्थना कृता या ईश्वरसकाशम् ॥73॥

Bodhe vā cintāyām karmaṇi vāci vā
jīvikārjane vā cestāyām śuddhilakṣaṇā syāt
saphalā prārthanā kṛitā yā Īśvarasakāśam.

Prayer to Iswara will bear the fruits of purity in understanding, thought, speech, actions, livelihood and efforts.

मत्स्यमांसवर्जनं दिगम्बरत्वं वा मस्तकमुण्डनं
कर्दमालिप्ताडगं वाग्निहोत्रादिकं चैतानि
कानिचित् कर्मणि मोहग्रस्तं न विशुद्धं कुर्वन्ति ॥74॥
Matsyamānsavarjanam digamvaratvanam vā mastakamuṇḍanam
kardamāliptāḍagam vāgnihotrādikam caitāni
kānicit karmāni mohagrastam na viśuddham kurvanti.

Neither abstinence from fish or meat, nor going naked, nor shaving the head, nor miring the body with mud, nor sacrificing to fire will cleanse a man who is not free from delusions.

स एव विश्वासवान् यस्य वाचनं कर्म च
निरापदमिति मन्यन्ते भगवत्-प्रजावर्गाः ॥75॥
Sa eva viśvāsavān yasya vācanam karma ca
nirāpadamiti manyante Bhagavat-prajāvargāḥ.

A faithful is he, from whose tongue and hands Ishwara's creation is safe.

ये तु ईश्वरकर्तृत्वे संशोरते कापुरुषाः
 ते निकृष्टाः शत्रवद्धा ईश्वरस्य, तेषां महती विनष्टिः ॥76॥

Ye tu Īśvarakartritve samśorate kāpuruṣāḥ
 te nikṛiṣṭāḥ śatravaśca Īśvarasya, teṣām mahati vinastiḥ.

The greatest enemies of Ishwara are those who are cowards and doubt the will of Ishwara. Doubters are subject to huge destruction.

सत्यमेव वाक्यं बदेत् प्रतिज्ञातं निर्वाहयेत् ।
 न्यस्तदायं सम्पादयेत् मलिनवासनां च परित्यजेत् ॥77॥

Satyameva vācam vadet pratijñātam nirvāhayet
 nyastadāyam sampādayet malinavāsanām ca parityajet.

Speak the truth, perform when you promise and discharge your trust.
 Have no impure desires.

यावती स्नेहशीला माता सन्तानं प्रति भवति
 तदधिको दयामयो भगवान् स्वयंसृष्टाः प्रजानः प्रति ॥
 हिंसनं नार्हति प्रजानां यदि तन्न भवति चानिवार्यं
 खाद्यसंग्रहार्थं वा आत्मसंरक्षणार्थमपरिहार्यम् ॥78॥

Yāvatī snehaśīlā mātā santānam prati bhavati
 tadaadhiko dayāmaya Bhagavān svayaṁsriṣṭān prajān prati
 him̄sanam nārhati prajānām yadi tanna bhavati cānivāryam
 khādyasam̄grahārtha vā ātmasam̄rakṣaṇārthamaparihāryam.

Ishwara's kindness towards His creatures is more than a mother's love towards her babe. Do not destroy any of Ishwara's creations if not an absolute necessity for food or self preservation.

मनो यस्य पवित्रं वासना च सुसंयता ।
 श्लोकोच्चाराद्मा मधुस्वनाः स एव भवितुमर्हति
 प्रार्थनायां पुरोहितो यजमानेभ्यो बहुदत्तदक्षिणः ॥
 कवोष्णमृदुवाक् वै स द्रावणे तु भवति शक्तः ।
 यावदेव भ्रान्तिं श्रावकाशं वा कुमतिं च तेषाम् ॥79॥

Mano yasya pavitram vāsanā ca susamīyatā
 ślokoccārāśca madhusvanāḥ sa eva bhavitumarhati
 prārthanāyām purohito yajamānebhyo vahudattadakṣināḥ
 kavoṣṇa mṛiduvāk vai sa drāvaṇe tu bhavati śaktah
 yāvadeva bhrāntim̄ śrāvakānām vā kumatin̄ ca teṣām.

Any person who has pure mind, control on desire and can recite slokas melodiously may lead a prayer as purohit (Guru) for whom the benefactors may provide in plenty. Purohit may speak kindly, pitying for the listeners errors with gentle warmth that melt always any ill will from listeners mind.

विद्वद्वराणां भाषणश्रवणं चान्येषां
 विज्ञानतत्त्वप्रबुद्धकरणमुच्यते च
 धर्मकर्मानुष्ठानतुल्यं वा तदधिकवरदम् ॥80॥
 Vidvatvarāṇām bhāṣaṇaśravaṇām cānnesha
 vijñānatattva pravuddhakaraṇamucyate ca
 dharmakarmānuṣṭhānatulyam vā tadaadhikavaradam.

To listen to the words of the learned and to instill into others the lessons of science, are equivalent to, or more gainful than, religious exercises.

मनीषिणां मसिबिन्दुद्वा वीराणां रक्तबिन्दवः
 उभावपि पवित्रौ च अमृतोपमानुच्ये ॥81॥
 Manīṣīṇām masivinduśca vīrāṇām raktavindavah
 ubhayo'pi pavitrau ca amṛtopamāvucyate.

It is said that the ink of the scholars is as holy as the blood of the heroic martyrs.

‘सुखी भव ईश्वरप्रसादात्’-एवमुवाच्य मित्रमभिनन्देत् ।
स यदि साहाय्यं याचते तत्पार्षे स्थितो भव सर्वसम्पदा सह ॥८२॥

‘Sukhī bhava Īśvaraprasādāt’ - evamuvācyā mitramabhinandyet.
Sa yadi sāhāyyām yācate tatpārṣve sthito bhava sarvasampada saha

When greeting a friend remind him of Ishwara's grace. When your friend needs you, stand by him with all your resources.

ईश्वरः स्वयंशुक्रः स्निह्यति पवित्रजनमसंशयम् ।
दिवा उपोष्य नक्तं पावनं पङ्किभोजनं स्वजनैः सह
एवं यस्तु पौर्णमासमाचरति तस्य वै ईश्वरः प्रसीदति ॥८३॥

Īśvaraḥ svayamśukraḥ snihyati pavitrajanaṁ asaṁśayam.
Divā uposya naktam pāvanam pañktibhojanam svajanaiḥ saha
evam yastu pourṇamāsamācarati tasya vai Īśvaraḥ prasīdati.

Ishwara is pure and loves the pure. Ishwara is pleased to clean your sin if on the full moon day, you fast during sunlight and feast in moon light with community members. This is called ‘Bhoj Utsav’.

ईश्वरसृष्टेषु जीवेषु यो दयावान् तं प्रति ईश्वरोऽपि दयावान् ।
पशुवधद्वादनिवार्यस्तर्हि तेभ्यः स्वल्पतमा पीडा भीतिद्वा देया ॥
एष ईश्वरादेशः ॥८४॥

Īśvaraśriṣṭeṣu jīveṣu yo dayāvān tam prati īśvaro'pi dayāvān.
Paśuvadhaścedanivāryastahī tebah tevha svalpatamā pīḍā bhītiśca deyā.
Eṣa īśvarādeśaḥ.

Whoever is kind to Iswara's creatures, Ishwara is kind to him, If an animal has to be killed, Ishwara orders that minimum fear and pain should be afflicted.

आस्तिको न व्यभिचारी स्यात् परदारं नाभिगच्छेत् ।
न वदेत् प्रतिषिद्धं च सदा सत्ये स्थितो भवेत् ॥८५॥

āstiko na vyabhicārī syāt paradigm nābhigacchet
na vadet pratiṣiddham ca sadā satye sthito bhavet.

Followers of Ishwara must not commit adultery. They must not desire the wife of other and must not utter what is forbidden and must always be steadfast in truth.

पशवद्वा भगवत्-सृष्टाः । तान् प्रति सदयो भव ।

यतस्ते च मानुषीवाक्वाचने अशक्ताः ॥

क्षुधार्तेभ्यस्तृष्णार्तेभ्यद्वा खाद्यं पेयं च दीयताम् ।

ते नैव प्राप्तक्लमाः प्रपीडिताद्वा भवन्तु ॥८६॥

Paśavaśca Bhagavat-sṛiṣṭāḥ. Tān prati sadayo bhava
yataste ca mānuṣīvākvācane aśaktāḥ.

Kṣudhārtebhystiṇārtebhyaśca khādyam peyam ca dīyatām
te naiva prāptaklamāḥ prapīḍitāśca bhavantu.

Be compassionate to Ishwara's animals for they cannot speak. Give food to the hungry and water to the thirsty. They should not be oppressed or fatigued.

श्रावकस्य बोधशक्तिं विभाव्य वक्तुमहति वाचम् ।

एषा वै भगवदिच्छा । सर्वविषये युगपदालोच्यमाने

न कद्गिद् विषयो न कस्यापि बोधं गमयति। भ्रान्तिरेव जायते च ॥८७॥

Śrāvakasya vodhaśaktim vibhāvyā vaktumarhati vācam.

Esā vai Bhagavadicchā. Sarvaviṣaye yugapadālocyamāne
na kaścid viṣayo na kasyāpi bodham gamyate. Bhrāntireva jāyate ca.

Ishwara desires that man should speak to the other as per the listener's mental capacity, if all things are discussed with all men, subject will be wrongly understood and error will be committed.

अन्नं देहि क्षुधातर्य शुक्षुषस्वातुरं जनम् ।
कद्यिदन्यायेनाबद्धव्योत् कुरु तस्य बन्धनमोचनम् ॥८८॥

Annam dehi kṣudhārtāya śukṣuṣasva āturaṁ janam
kaścidanyāyenāvaddhaścet kuru tasya vandhanamocanam.

Feed the hungry and visit the sick and free the captive if he is unjustly confined.

सहचराः पापकर्त्तारोऽपि यदि साहाय्यमुपयाचन्ते
पापान्निवार्य तान् कुरुष्व पापविरतान् ॥८९॥
Sahacarāḥ pāpakkarttāro'pi yadi sāhāyyamupayācante
pāpānnivārya tān kurusva pāpaviratān.

Assist your comrades even if they are sinners. Assist a sinner by forbidding and withholding him from sinning.

यो योग्यो यः समर्थज्ञा करोति कर्म च आत्मनो
परस्य च, तत्सहायः प्रसन्नज्ञा स्वयं भवति ईश्वरः ॥९०॥
Yo yogyo yaḥ samarthaśca karoti karma ca ātmano
parasya ca tatsahāyah prasannaśca svayam bhavati īśvarah.

Whosoever is able and fit must work for himself and for others, Ishwara is helpful and gracious to him.

ईश्वरलाभाय आत्मानं विद्धि
प्रतिजनस्य ज्ञानाहरणमवश्यं करणीयम् ॥९१॥
Īśvaralābhāya ātmānāni viddhi
pratijanasya jñānāharaṇamavaśyam karaṇīyam.

Know yourself to realize Ishwara. The acquisition of knowledge is a duty incumbent on every human.

नारी तु समादरणीया । एष ईश्वरादेशः ।
 सा वै भवति माता च कन्या च भगिनी वा ।
 तां प्रति यत् कर्तव्यं तदकरणं नरकं नयति ॥92॥

Nārī tu samādaraṇīyā. eṣa Īśvarādeśāḥ
 sā vai bhavati mātā ca kanyā ca bhagini vā
 tām̄ prati yat kartavyam̄ tadakaraṇam̄ narakaṁ nayati.

Ishwara enjoins you to treat women well for they are your mothers and daughters and may be, sisters. Shirking responsibilities towards women will open up your path to hell.

प्रतिदानं वा पुनर्लाभमिच्छन् न कुरुष्व किमपि दानम्
 एवमनिच्छन्नपि लभेत् पुण्यं जगदपि च भवति तव मित्रम् ॥93॥

Pratidānam̄ vā punarlābhamicchan na kurusva kimapi dānam
 evamanicchannapi labhet punyam̄ jagadapi ca bhavati tava mitram.

When you donate anything, do it without wishing a return donation or desiring to get back what you donated. Thus will you attain virtues and the world also will become your friend even if you do not desire so.

समुत्पन्ने विवादे तु विचारात् प्रागेव श्रोतव्यम्
 उभयपक्षस्य वक्तव्यं यतो विस्पष्टं भवति तथ्यमवितथम् ॥94॥

Samutpanne vivāde tu vicārāt prāgeva śrotavyam
 ubhayapakṣasya vaktavyam̄ yato vispaṣṭam̄ bhavati tathyamavitatham.

When two parties come to you for the settlement of a dispute, do not decide before you have heard the words of both the sides; for it is most proper that the fact should be evident to you.

यो जीवान् अभि द्रुह्यति तेषामनिष्टं करोति च
 सर्वजीवेषु यस्य मैत्रीभावना च नास्ति,
 पतितः स समाजच्युतिमर्हति ॥95॥

Yah jīvān abhi druhyati teṣāmaniṣṭam karoti ca
 sarvajīveṣu yasya maitrībhāvanā ca nāsti
 patitah sa samājacyutimarhati.

Whosoever hurts and harms living creatures, is devoid of sympathy for any living thing, let him be known as an outcast.

शौर्यं तु जगद्विजयक्षमं जीवने च सुप्रतिष्ठा
 कृतिषु च कीर्तिरितत् सर्वमीश्वरानुग्रहे पूर्णतया निर्भरं
 निश्चितं वै निर्णयरामेतद् आस्तिक्यबुद्धेविशिष्टलक्षणम् ॥96॥

Śouryam tu jagatvijayakṣamānā jīvane ca supratisthā
 kṛitiṣu ca kīrttimetat sarvamīśvarānugrahe pūrṇatayā nirbharam
 niścitanām vai nirṇayametad āstikyavuddherviśiṣṭalakṣaṇam.

The distinctive signs of your faith are courage to win the world and complete dependence on Ishwara's will for your life and achievements.

यावदायुस्तावदिह सदा दानशीलो नरः प्रेत्यास्माक्षेकात् ।
 पश्यति स्वर्गद्वारं विशालं तस्य कृते उन्मुक्तमनर्गालम् ॥97॥

Yāvadāyustāvadiha sadā dānaśīlo narah pretyāsmākṣekāt
 paśyati svargadvāram viśālam tasya kṛite unmuktamanargalam.

A man, always charitable during his life here, finds the great door of paradise wide open for him when he departs from this world.

हृदयं यत् सदा जीवप्रेमपूरितं तदभीष्टतममिह संसारे ॥१९८॥
Hṛidayam yat sadā jīvapremapūritam tadabhiṣṭatamamiha saṁsāre.

What is most needed in this world is a heart full of love for creatures.

आस्ते भग आसीनस्य — चरैवेति चरैवेति ।
चरन् वै मधु विन्दति चरन् स्वादु उदुम्वरम् ॥
पश्य सुर्यस्य श्रेमाणं यो न तन्द्रयते चरन् ।
चरैवेति चरैवेति चरैवेति ॥१९९॥

*Āste bhaga āśinasya — caraiveti caraiveti
Caran vai madhu vindati caran svādu udumvaram.
Paśya suryasya śremāṇam yo na tandrayate caran.
Caraiveti caraiveti caraiveti.*

One's fortune stays seated (never prospers) if one stays seated. So move on, move on. Verily when one moves on, one gets honey. Moving on (to the tree) one does get sweet Uduvara fruits. Look ! How beautiful is the brilliance of the Sun who is ever moving, never fatigues and stops. So move on, move on, verily you do keep on moving.

ॐ भद्रं कर्णेभिः शृणुयाम देवाः । भद्रं पश्येमाक्षभिर्यजत्राः ।
स्थिरैरडेंस्तुष्टुवांसस्तनूभिः । व्यशेम देवहितं यदायुः ॥
ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥१००॥

*Aum bhadram karṇebhiḥ śriṇuyāma Devāḥ.
Bhadram paśyemākṣabhiryajatrāḥ.
Sthirairāṇaistuṣṭuvāṁsastanūbhīḥ. Vyaśema devahitam yadāyuh.
Aum sāntiḥ sāntiḥ sāntiḥ.*

Oh Ishwara ! Let us hear good words through our ears, and let our eyes see good things. Let us sing hymns to you with steady bodies, limbs and organs and thus live the whole length of our lives as ordained by the Ishwara. Let there be peace, peace and peace everywhere.

LORD KRISHNA AND THE BHAGVAD GITA

मूर्कं करोति वाचालं, पंगुं लंघयतेगिकरम् ।
यत् कृपा तमहं बन्दे, परमानन्द माधवम् ॥

*I salute that all-blissful Lord Krishna
whose compassion makes the dumb eloquent and
enables the lame to cross mountains !*

Lord Krishna was born in Mathura in 3500 B.C. Those days Mathura was ruled by a king called Kansha. Kansha was his maternal uncle. Krishna was the eighth child of Vasudev and Devaki.

Kansha was an evil tyrant and his tyranny spared no one. Even the Sages had to bear his brunt. Kansha imprisoned his own father King Ugrasena and snatched the crown of Mathura. Kansha hard a divine oracle which said that "your sister Devaki's eighth child will be your slayer". So just after Devaki's marriage, Devaki and Vasudev were imprisoned by King Kansha.

Each time Devaki gave birth to a child in the prison, Kansha himself would kill the child. Devaki became pregnant for the eighth time. The divine essence of Lord Vishnu was born in the prison as the eighth child of Devaki. This child is Lord Krishna.

Thunder, storm, lightning and floods marked the night of Krishna's birth. The guards fell asleep and the doors opened through a miracle. A divine message came to Vasudev soon after the birth of Lord Krishna, "Take this child across the Yamuna river to Gokul. You will return to the prison before anyone comes to know about the birth of this child". Vasudev immediately carried the child in his arms and he found that the prison doors had opened automatically to let him out. Vasudev approached the Yamuna river, which was very turbulent due to the fierce winds and rain. However, as soon as Vasudev reached the riverbank, the river parted and made way for Vasudev who was carrying the divine child.

Vasudev reached the opposite side of the river safely and found all the people of Gokul fast asleep. He entered the house of chief Nanda and his wife Yashoda. Vasudev put the baby Krishna in the hands of Nanda. Who put Krishna by the side of Yashoda. Yashoda was the foster mother of Lord Krishna. She brought up the child Krishna. Krishna means black. Lord Krishna had dark skin. Hindus thus, have a special love and respect for the dark skinned people.

The tyrant Kansha, as soon as he came to know of the birth of Devaki's child, rushed to the prison cell to kill the new born baby. However, being unable to kill the child of Devaki, Kansha became furious and ordered all the babies in Brindavan and its neighborhood to be killed. Krishna, who was born to re-establish '*Sanatana Dharma*' remained unscathed and subsequently thwarted all Kansha's attempts to put an end to his life. Kansha utilised an uncle of Lord Krishna, Akrur to bring him to Mathura on the ploy of a compromise discussion.

As soon as Krishna came, Kangsa tried to kill him first through his hired killers and later with the help of a mad elephant. Ultimately, Kansha himself was killed by the youthful Lord Krishna during a hand to hand fight and Kangsa's father Ugrasena was reinstalled on the throne.

Lord Krishna's childhood was full of dangerous attempts on his life. He grew up with the cowherds and the milkmaid girls. These girls were known as *gopis* in Brindavan. He was an excellent flute player. During his childhood Krishna taught his friends how to use the excess energy of youthful vigour in the art form of music and dance. This dance form is still being practised as *Dandi Rash Dance*.

Radha a *gopi* girl was his most ardent friend and disciple. Upto the age of fourteen Lord Krishna enjoyed his childhood in the midst of songs, dances and youthful pranks.

At the age of fourteen Lord Krishna left his childhood abode permanently and went to Mathura where he slew the wicked King Kansha. Krishna became the disciple of Saint Sandipani from his childhood days. He learnt Vedas as well as martial arts of warfare in the Ashram of the guru.

Throughout his life, Krishna struggled to give the deprived masses their due. He sacrificed all comforts and even his life for the cause of the

have-nots and fought for the causes of the deprived. And in doing so he had to fight continuously with the powerful politicians of his period.

His aim was to make *Sanatana Dharma* a centralized movement under one umbrella. He gave patronage to Pandava King Yudhishthira to establish a just kingdom where even the poorest of the poor will get the chance to live honourably and will get justice through the vehicle of centralized *Sanatana Dharma* tenets.

During his time a powerful tyrant King Jarasandha was ruling Magadh. Kansa was Jarasandha's son-in-law. To take revenge of Kansa's death, Jarasandha invited Kal Javan, a foreign leader of horse-riding invader tribe from north western boarder of India. He along with his army crossed Hindu Kush mountain-pass and attacked Krishna's Mathura. Krishna killed Kal Javan in a one to one fight.

Jarasandha however, continuously oppressed, killed, maimed and imprisoned the followers of Lord Krishna. The wicked king laid seize on Mathura time and again with the intention of genocide. He blocked essential food supplies by deploying a large army. Each time Lord Krishna fought valiantly and defeated Jarasandha on every occasion.

Krishna realized that he had meagre resources compared to the unlimited supplies of wealth and resources of Jarashandha. He found that he would need 300 years to deplete Jarashandha's large army. Under the circumstances Lord Krishna decided to avoid further bloodshed of the poor massess of Mathura.

To ensure the safety of common men of Mathura, Lord Krishna made a long journey along with all his followers. The team of followers crossed about thousand miles and reached the sea shore of India's western coast. There he established the city of Dwarka.

He entrusted the governance of Dwarka to his kinsmen, the *Vrishnis*. Though himself a famous warrior, a wise statesman, an intelligent diplomat, he never coveted a throne.

He subjugated many tyrant kings of their kingdoms for establishing justice to the deprived massess but never occupied the throne himself. He always gave it back to the people of the country.

After many years, when he was aged 53, he revisited Brindavan once on the fervent requests of the old friends. When he came to revisit Brindavan, the common masses enthusiastically disengaged the horses of his chariot and pulled the chariot themselves. Till today Hindus all over the world commemorate this short visit of Lord Krishna to his native friends of Brindavan as 'Chariot Festival'.

Lord Krishna was often seen in the midst of intense activity, but he remained always calm and unattached. He took all sufferings on himself and always stood by the weak and the deprived in the face of the deepest provocation and danger to his life.

There was a wicked king at Pragjyotispur, who had imprisoned sixteen hundred young women for his service. He caused immense sufferings to the people of his kingdom. The masses appealed to Lord Krishna for relief. Lord Krishna fought and killed the king of Pragjyotishpur.

He gave back the Kingdom to the son of the defeated king. Sixteen hundred women were freed but the question arose as to who will feed them and protect their honour. To protect the life and honour of these unfortunate imprisoned women, Krishna in a public function, announced that from that day onward all people should treat these ladies as the wives of Lord Krishna and must provide for their upkeep, safety and pay respect due to the wife of Lord Krishna. And anyones wrong doing will invite death penalty from the Lord Krishna. Lord Krishna, however, never had physical relations with anyone of them. Till this day any Hindu woman in distress considers Lord Krishna as her husband and protector and gets solace.

Lord Krishna was the greatest human beings on earth. He was the most compassionate and loving character, a brilliant scholar, great mathematician, great scientist, great artist and a charming player of the flute. He was the strongest of human beings, a statesman politician and a warrior who was never defeated by anyone.

Lord Krishna was always a man of the masses and he lived a very simple life. Hindus believe Lord Krishna is the *Ishwara*'s own son. *Ishwara* sent his own son Lord Krishna to us, to suffer all types of sufferings so that sufferings of the common mass reduces. He had all the opportunities to

be in a palace and to sleep on a golden bed, but he preferred to take rest under a tree in a forest as any poor man would have done.

In the year 3430 B.C. he was taking rest under a tree. Seeing his rosy feet from a distance, a hunter mistook them for a red bird and aimed a poisonous arrow which pierced his feet. The hunter realized his grievous mistake and was grief-stricken and wanted to commit suicide, but Lord Krishna blessed him with a smile and soon after gave up his mortal life.

Though thousands of years have elapsed, the memory of Lord Krishna and the sweet tune of his flute is still evergreen in the hearts of billions of his devotees.

Lord Krishna is worshipped in various forms. He is the favourite ideal of men and women, the ideal of children as well as of adults. He was the most detached Sannyasin and the most wonderful householder in one; he had all the power and riches of a Raja and was at the same time living in the midst of the most exemplary renunciation.

Immediately after his death a very high tidal wave from the seas, caused due to earthquakes under the seabed, in 3430 B.C. swept Dwaraka and a vast coast line into the Arabian sea. Lord Krishna is the last messiah i.e. *Devata* of the Hindu religion.

Lord Krishna is the *Ishwara's* representative, the saviour of all. Whoever loves him, he bestows success, relief and peace. He protects the poor and weak from oppression. He had sacrificed all his happiness for the benefit of the toiling poor mass. He had never accepted kingship. He always stood for the cause of the ordinary people.

Anyone who commits himself/herself to Lord Krishna is relieved of all pains and sufferings and goes to heaven to be by the side of Ishwara for eternal joy. Lord Krishna promised to come back again to ameliorate the sufferings of ethical loyal people. He promised it himself in the Gita.

यदा यदाहि धर्मस्य ग्लानिर्भवति भारत
 अभ्युथानमधर्मस्य तदात्मानं सृजाम्यहम्
 परित्रानाय साधूनाम् विनाशाय च दुष्कृताम्
 धर्मसंस्थापनार्थाय सम्भवामि युगे युगे

Yadā yadā hi dharmashya glanirbhavati bhārata
 abhyutha-nam adharmashya tadatmanam srijamyaham
 paritranaya sadhunam binashaya ca duskritam
 dharma samsthapanar thaya sambhabami yuge yuge

Here Lord Krishna is promising, “I will take birth again, whenever needed to clean the polity of injustice and evil deeds and establish a state where all men and women will live with dignity and honour”.

The Gita is treasure house of knowledge in the Hindu religion i.e. it guides one about the good Hindu way of life to follow. It is the most important text to a Hindu. Persons of any other religion may also read and practise it in their daily lives.

The Gita is a collection of sermons given by Lord Krishna to his disciple Arjuna on the eve of the great historical war of Mahabharata. This war was between the Kourava and the Pandava clans. This war was fought in 3450 B.C. at Kurukshetra, which is situated about 100 km north west of New Delhi, India.

Arjuna was a great warrior and was on the side of the Pandavas. During these sermons, Lord Krishna was in a trance with a supernatural form (*Viswarup Darshan*) and talked in a trance and passed it to the whole world through Arjuna. Through the Gita, Lord Krishna teaches the Hindus the best way to live a life and the best path to reach *Ishwara*.

Lord Krishna said *Karma Yoga* (achievement through hard work) is superior to *Jnan Yoga* (achievement through pursuit of Knowledge), he said *Ishwara* is supreme and indivisible with no beginning and no end. *Ishwara* is the cause of all causes.

Lord Krishna explained that the caste system is a division of labour according to ones capabilities and *Ishwara* did not ordain it. He said that

everything in this universe is a creation of *Ishwara*. If *Ishwara* would have hated anything or any person, He would have annihilated it himself and would not have depended on His followers to do the job.

The Gita teaches that hypocrites (*Mithyachary*) never attain salvation and they are dangerous persons and are to be shunned. The Gita teaches us that we should try to do our work in the most excellent way without asking for immediate results for the result will be automatic, proportional to our contribution as per circumstances.

The Gita says that renunciation of worldly affairs, i.e. taking *sannyasa*, is easier and less pleasing to *Ishwara*. Lord Krishna encouraged his followers to struggle and win the battles of life through *Karma-Yoga* (success through hard work and application of honest intelligence).

The Gita also teaches one that true knowledge is engulfed in a smoke screen of falsehood. This falsehood is spread by the hypocrites who are power seekers. The original Gita contains 700 *slokas* (verses) and 18 chapters. Few of the original *slokas* for regular working people are being presented here.

GITA HYMNS

1

ये यथा मां प्रपद्यन्ते तांस्तथैव भजाम्यहम् ।

मम वर्त्मानुवर्तन्ते मनुष्याः पार्थ सर्वशः ।

Ye yathā mām̄ prapadyante tāṁstathaiva bhajāmyaham
mama vartamānanuvartante manusyāḥ pārtha sarvaśāḥ

Arjuna, howsoever men seek *Ishwara*, even so do I approach them; for all men follow my path in every way.

2

कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।

मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि ।

Karmanyavādhikāraste mā phaleṣu kadāchana
mā karmaphalaheturbhūrmā te saṅgo' stv'akarmanī

Your right is to work only, do not hanker for fruit there of. Be not impatient in judging the proportion of your achievements for fruit is automatic and cannot be prevented.

3

यदा ते मोहकलिलं बुद्धिर्व्यतितरिष्यति ।

तदा गन्तासि निर्वेदं श्रीतव्यस्य श्रुतस्य च ।

Yadā te moha-kalilang buddhir vyati-tariṣyati
tadā gantāsi nirvedaṁ śrītavyasya śrutasya ca

When your mind will have fully crossed the mire of delusion, you will then grow indifferent to the enjoyments of this world and the next that have been heard of as well as to those that are yet to be heard of.

4

नमः पुरस्तादथ पृष्ठतस्ते नमोऽस्तु ते सर्वत एव सर्वं ।
अनन्तवीर्यामितविक्रमस्त्वं सर्वं समाप्रोषि ततोऽसि सर्वः ।

Namah purastādatha priṣṭha-taste namo'stu te sarvata eba sarva
ananta-vīryāmita-vikramastvam̄ sarva samāproṣi tato'si sarvah

O Ishwara of infinite prowess, my salutations to you from all sides. O unique soul of everything my obeisance to You from all aspects indeed. You who possess limitless might, pervade all ; therefore, You alone are everything.

5

ज्ञेयं यत्तप्रवक्ष्यामि यज्ञात्वामृतमश्रुते ।
अनादिमत्परं ब्रह्म न सत्तत्रासदुच्यते ।
Jneyam̄ yattatpravakṣyāmi jajnā twāṁṛitaśrute
anādimatparam̄ brahma na sattatrasaducyate

He ought to be known, and knowing which one attains supreme bliss. That supreme Ishwara who is beginning-less entity, is said to be neither Sat (being) nor Asat (non-being).

6

दिवि सूर्यसहस्रस्य भवेद्युगपदुत्थिता ।
यदि भाः सदृशी सा स्याद्ब्राह्मस्तस्य महात्मनः ।
Divi sūryasahasrasya bhavedyugapadutthitā
yadi bhāḥ sadṛiśī sā syādbhāsastasya mahātmanah

If there be the effulgence of a thousand suns bursting forth all at once in the heavens, even that would hardly approach the splendor of the mighty Ishwara.

7

सर्वतः पाणिपादं तत्सर्वतोऽक्षिशिरोमुखम् ।

सर्वतः श्रुतिमल्लोके सर्वमावृत्य तिष्ठति ।

Sarvataḥ pāṇipādaṁ tatsarvatoskṣi śiromukham
sarvataḥ śruti-malloke sarbamābritya tiṣṭhati

He, as if, has hands and feet on all sides, eyes, head and mouth in all directions, and ears all round; for it stands pervading all in the universe.

8

नादत्ते कस्यचित्पापं न चैव सुकृतं विभुः ।

अज्ञानेनावृतं ज्ञानं तेन मुह्यन्ति जन्तवः ।

Nādatte kasyachitpāpaṁ na chaiva sukrītam vibhuḥ
ajnane-navritam jnanam tena mutchyanti jantavaḥ

Ishwara is much beyond to be influenced by the virtue or sin of anyone. Knowledge is enveloped in ignorance and as a result public constantly fall prey to delusion.

9

ज्ञानेन तु तदज्ञानं येषां नाशितमात्मनः ।

तेषामादित्यवज्ञानं प्रकाशयति तत्परम् ।

Gyañena tu tad gyanam yeṣāṅg nāśita matmanḥ
teṣām ādityavaj-gyanam prakāśayati tat param

Ignorance has to be set aside by true knowledge of *Ishwara*, then wisdom will be shining as the sun shines and the supreme wisdom brings success.

10

बलं बलवतां चाहं कामरागविवर्जितम् ।

धर्माविरुद्धो भूतेषु कामोऽस्मि भरतर्षभ ।

Balaṁ balavatāṁ chāhaṁ kāma rāga vivarjitaṁ
dharmā-viruddho bhutesu kāmo'smi bharatarsabha

Ishwara is the might of the mighty, free from passion and desire; in living beings, He is the normal sexual desire not conflicting with virtue.

11

उत्तमः पुरुषस्त्वन्यः परमात्मेत्युदाहृतः ।
यो लोकत्रयमाविश्य बिभर्त्यव्यय ईश्वरः ।

Uttamḥ puruṣas tva anyaḥ paramātmety-udāhṛitah
yo loka-trayamā-viśya bibhartya abyaya iśwarah

The supreme Lord is *Ishwara* He is infinite being who is the cause of all causes. He upholds and maintains all, and has been spoken of as the imperishable Lord and the Supreme Spirit.

12

मूढग्राहेणात्मनो यत्पीडया क्रियते तपः ।
परस्योत्सादनार्थं वा तत्त्वामसमुदाहृतम् ।

Mūḍha grāheṇātmano jatpi-ḍayā kriyate tapaḥ
parasyot sādanārtham vā tatya-masamudā hṛitam

Austerity which is practised through perversity and is accompanied with self-mortification or is intended to harm others, such austerity has been declared as *Tāmasika*.

13

दातव्यमिति यद्दानं दीयतेऽनुपकारिणे ।
देशे काले च पात्रे च तद्दानं सात्तिकं स्मृतम् ।

Dātavyam iti jad dānam dīyate'a nupkāriṇe
deśe kāle cha pātre cha tad dānam sāttikam smṛitam

A gift which is bestowed with a sense of duty on one who is no benefactor and place, suitable time and to a deserving person, that gift has been pronounced as *Sāttvika*.

14

यत्तु प्रत्युपकारार्थं फलमुद्दिश्य वा पुनः ।
दीयते च परिक्लिष्टं तदानं राजसं स्मृतम् ।
Yat tu pratyu-pakārārtham phala muddisya bā punaḥ
dīyate cha parikliṣṭam tad dānam rājasam smṛitam

A gift which is bestowed in a grudging spirit and with the object of getting a service in return or in the hope of obtaining a reward, is called *Rājasika*.

15

ईश्वरः सर्वभूतानां हृदेशोऽर्जुन तिष्ठति ।
भ्रामयन्सर्वभूतानि यन्त्रारूढानि मायया ।
Iśvararaha sarva bhūtānāng hṛiddese arjuna tiṣṭhati
bhrāmayan sarva bhūtāni yantrā rūdāni māyayā

Ishwara abides in the heart of all creatures, causing them to revolve according to their *Karma* by His illusive power, seated as those beings are in the vehicle of the body.

16

परस्तस्मात् भावोऽन्योऽव्यक्तोऽव्यक्तात्सनातनः ।
यः स सर्वेषु भूतेषु न शयत्सु न विनश्यति ।
Parastas-māsttu bhāvo'nyo' vyakto' vyaktāt sanātanaḥ
yah sa sarveṣu bhūteṣu naśyatsu na vinaśyati

Far beyond even this manifest, yet other manifests exists, that Supreme Divine Person, who will not perish even though all things of this world will perish one day.

17

अश्रद्धया हुतं दत्तं तपस्तप्तं कृतं च यत् ।
असदित्युच्यते पार्थ न च तत्प्रेत्य नो इह ।

Aśraddhayā hutam dattam tapas taptam kṛitam cha yat
asadityu chyate pārtha na cha tat pretya no yeha

An oblation which is offered, a gift given, an austerity practised, and whatever good deed is performed, without faith, are all termed as naught; and is of no result.

18

यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठस्तत्तदेवेतरो जनः ।
स यत्प्रमाणं कुरुते लोकस्तदनुवर्तते ।

Yad yad acharati śreṣṭhas tatyā devetaro janah
sa yat pramāṇam kurute lokastad-anuvartate

For whatever a great man does, that very thing other men also do ; whatever standard he sets up, the generality of men follow the same.

19

उत्सीदेयुरिमे लोका न कुर्या कर्म चेदहम् ।
संकरस्य च कर्ता स्यामुपहन्यामिमाः प्रजाः ।

Utsīdeyurime lokā na kurjām karma ched aham
sarikarasya cha kartā syāmupa hanyām imām prajāḥ

If Ishwara ceases to act, these worlds will perish. Similarly by not working a person causes confusion and ultimately destruction of general people.

20

इन्द्रियाणि पराण्याहुरिन्द्रियेभ्यः परं मनः ।
मनसस्तु परा बुद्धिर्यो बुद्धेः परतस्तु सः ।

Indriāni parānyāhur-indriyebhyah param manah
manasastu parā buddhir-yo buddhey paratastu sah

The senses are said to be greater than the body ; but greater than the senses is the mind. Greater than the mind is the intellect; and what is greater than the intellect is *Ishwara* (the conscience).

21

ब्राह्मणक्षत्रियविशां शुद्राणां च परंतप ।
कर्माणि प्रविभक्तानि स्वभावप्रभवैर्गुणैः ।

Brāhmaṇa khatriya-vaiśāṁ śūdrāṇāṁ cha parantapa
karmāṇi pravibhaktāni svabhāva-prabhavair-guṇaiḥ

The designation of the Brahmans, the Kṣatriyas and the Vaiśyas, as well as of the Śūdras are to be divided according to manifestation of their professional qualities.

22

सन्यासस्तु महाबाहो दुःखमाप्तुमयोगतः ।
योगयुक्तो मुनिर्ब्रह्म नचिरेणाधिगच्छति ।

Sanayāsastu mahābāho duhkha māptu mayogataḥ
jogajukto munir-brahma nachireṇādhigachchhati

Without *Karmayoga*, however, *Sāṅkhayoga* (or renunciation of doership in relation to all activities of the mind, senses and body) is difficult to accomplish; whereas the *Karmayogi* who keeps his mind fixed on God, realises *Brahma* (God) in no time.

23

न कर्तृत्वं न कर्माणि लोकस्य सृजति प्रभुः ।
न कर्मफलसंयोगं स्वभावस्तु प्रवर्तते ।

Na kartṛitwang na karmāṇi lokasya srijati prabhuh
na karmaphala samjogam swabhā-vastu pravartate

Ishwara determines not the doership nor the doings of men, nor even with the result of actions; but it is nature of the man which alone functions.

24

सर्वकर्माण्यपि सदा कुर्वणो मद्युपाश्रयः ।
मत्प्रसादादवाप्रोति शाश्तं पदमव्ययम् ।

Sarba karmāṇyi-api sadā kurbāṇo madya pāś rayah
mat prasādādbāproti śāśwatam padam abyayam

The *karmayogi*, who depends on *Ishwara*, attains His grace, the eternal, imperishable state, even though performing all action.

25

नियतं कुरु कर्म त्वं कर्म ज्यायो ह्यकर्मणः ।
शरीरयात्रापि च ते न प्रसिद्धेदकर्मणः ।

Niyatam kuru karma twang karma jyāyo hyakar-maṇah
śarīra-yātrāpi cha te na prasid dhyed karmanah

Perform your allotted duty ; for action is superior to inaction. By desisting from all actions, you cannot even maintain your body.

26

मोघाशा मोघकर्मणो मोघज्ञाना विचेतसः ।

राक्षसीमासुरीं चैव प्रकृतिं मोहिनीं श्रिताः ।

Moghāśā mogha karmāṇo mogha-gyañā biche tsāḥ
rākṣasīma-āsurīm chaiva prakṛitim mohinīm śritāḥ

Misguided persons with false hope of paradise, with destructive actions and fruitless rituals do embrace a fiendish and delusive nature.

27

यान्ति देवव्रता देवान्पितृन्यान्ति पितृव्रताः ।

भूतानि यान्ति भूतेज्या यान्ति मद्याजिनोऽपि माम् ।

Jānti deva-bratā debānpiṭrin yānti pitṛi-bratāḥ
bhūtāni jānti bhūtejyā jānti madyā jino'pi mām

Those who are vowed to Gods go to the Gods; those who adore the spirits reach the spirits and those who worship Him come to Him alone.

28

यः सर्वत्रानभिस्नेहस्तत्तत्प्राप्य शुभाशुभम् ।

नाभिनन्दति न द्वेष्टि तस्य प्रज्ञा प्रतिष्ठिता ।

Yah sarbtrānabhisnehas tat tat prāpya śubhāśubham
nābhinandati na dyeṣṭi tasya pragya pratiṣṭhitā

He who is unattached to anything, and while meeting with good or evil neither rejoices nor recoils, his mind is stable.

29

क्रोधाद्वति सम्मोहः सम्मोहात्स्मृतिविभ्रमः ।

स्मृतिभ्रंशाद्बुद्धिनाशो बुद्धिनाशात्प्रणश्यति ।

Krodhād bhavati sammohaḥ sammohāt smṛiti-vibhramah
smṛiti bhramāśād buddhi nāśo buddhināśat pravaśyati

From anger arises infatuation; from infatuation, confusion of memory; from confusion of memory, loss of reason; and from loss of reason one goes to complete ruin.

30

न कर्मणामनारम्भान्तेष्कर्म्य पुरुषोऽश्रुते ।
 न च संन्यसनादेव सिद्धिं समधिगच्छति ।
 Na karmaṇām manārambhā naiśkarmam puruṣo'śrute
 na cha sannyasanā deb siddhim samadhi gachhati

Man does not attain freedom from action without entering upon action; nor does he reach perfection merely by ceasing to act.

31

न हि कश्चित्क्षणमपि जातु तिष्ठत्यकर्मकृत् ।
 कार्यते ह्यवशः कर्म सर्वः प्रकृतिजैर्गुणैः ।
 Na hi kaśyachit-śkaṇam api jatu tiṣṭhatya karmakrit
 kārjate hyabaśah karma sarvah prakrit-jair guṇaiḥ

Surely none can ever remain inactive even for a moment ; for everyone is helplessly driven to action by natural qualities.

32

तस्मादसक्तः सततं कार्यं कर्म समाचर ।
 असक्तये ह्याचरन्कर्म परमाप्रोति पुरुषः ।
 Tasmāda saktah satatam kārjam karma samāchara
 asakto hyācharan karma parmāproti pūruṣah

Go on efficiently doing your duty without attachment. Doing work without attachment, one attains the *Ishwara*.

33

य इमं परमं गुह्यं मद्भक्तेष्टभिधास्यति ।
 भक्तिं मयि परं कृत्वा मामेवैष्यत्यसंशयः ।
 Ya imam paramam guhyam mad bhakteṣ vidhāsyati
 bhakting mayi parāṅg kṛitwā mām evaisyaty sangśayah

He who, offering the highest love to *Ishwara*, preaches the most profound gospel of these scriptures among public shall go to heaven; there is no doubt about it.

34

चातुर्वर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः ।
तस्य कर्तारमपि मां विद्ध्यकर्तारमव्ययम् ।
Chāturvarṇam̄ mayā sṛiṣṭam̄ guṇa-karma-vibhāgaśa
tasya kartār-mapi māṅ viddhyakartāram avyayam

The four orders of society are dominant according to the predominant qualities and involvement in corresponding duties; and created through humans like me, the immortal Lord, is not involved.

35

श्रेयान्स्वधर्मो विगुणः परधर्मात्स्वनुष्ठितात् ।
स्वधर्मे निधनं श्रेयः परधर्मो भयावहः ।
Sreyānasya dharmo biguṇaḥ paradharmāt swanuṣṭhitāt
swadharme nidhanam̄ śreyaḥ paradharma bhayāvahaḥ

One's own duty, though devoid of merit, is preferable to the duty of another well performed. Even death in the performance of one's own duty brings blessedness; another's duty is fraught with fear.

36

संन्यासः कर्मयोगश्च निःश्रेयसकरावुभौ ।
तयोस्तु कर्मसंन्यासात्कर्मयोगो विशिष्यते ।
Sanyāsaḥ karma jugaś-cha nihśreya-sakarā bubhau
tayostu karma-samnayāsāt karmajogo viśiṣṭyate

The *Yoga* of knowledge and the *Yoga* of action both lead to supreme bliss. Of the two, however, the *Yoga* of action (being easier to practice) is superior to the *Yoga* of knowledge.

सांख्ययोगौ पृथग्बालाः प्रवदन्ति न पण्डिताः ।

एकमयास्थितः सम्यगुभयोर्विन्दते फलम् ।

Sāṅkhyayogaḥ pṛthag bālāḥ pravadanti na paṇḍitāḥ
ekam pyāsthitaḥ samyagu bhayor vindate phalam

It is the ignorant, not the wise, who say that *Sāṅkhyayoga* and *Karmayoga* lead to divergent results. For one who is firmly established in either, gets the fruit of both (which is the same. viz., God-Realization).

नियतं सङ्गेरहितमरागद्वेषतः कृतम् ।

अफलप्रेप्सुना कर्म यत्तत्सात्त्विकमुच्यते ।

Niyatang saṅga-rahitam arāga dwesataḥ kṛitam
aphala prepsunā karma tat sāttvikam muchyate

That action which is ordained by the scriptures and is not accompanied by the sense of doership, and has been done without any partiality or prejudice by one who seeks no return, is called *Sāttvika*.

रागी कर्मफलप्रेप्सुर्लुब्धो हिंसात्मकोऽशुचिः ।

हर्षशोकान्वितः कर्ता राजसः परिकीर्तिः ।

Rāgi karma phala prepsur lubdho hingsātmako śuchih
harṣa śokānvitah kartā rājasah parikīrtitah

The doer who is full of attachment, seeks the fruit of actions and is greedy, and who is oppressive by nature and of impure conduct, and is affected by joy and sorrow, is to be avoided as he is *Rājasika*.

40

यतः प्रवृत्तिर्भूतानां येन सर्वमिदं ततम् ।
स्वकर्मणा तमभ्यर्च्य सिद्धिं विन्दति मानवः ।

Jataḥ pravṛittir bhūtānām jena sarba midang tatam
swakarmaṇā tam bhyarchya siddhim bindati mānavaḥ

Man attains the highest perfection by worshipping *Ishwara* through his own natural duties. From Him the tide of creation has streamed forth and by Him all this universe is pervaded.

41

कर्मेन्द्रियाणि संयम्य य आस्ते मनसा स्मरन् ।
इन्द्रियार्थान्विमुद्गात्मा मिथ्याचारः स उच्यते ।

Karmendriāni sang jamya ya āste manasā smaran
indriyātān bimuratmā mithyā chāraḥ sa uchyate

He who outwardly restrains the organs of sense and action, sits mentally dwelling on the objects of senses, that man of deluded intellect is a hypocrite.

42

अधिष्ठानं तथा कर्ता करणं च पृथग्विधम् ।
विविधाश्च पृथक्चेष्टा दैवं चैवात्र पञ्चमम् ।

Adhiṣṭhānam tathā kartā karāṇam cha pṛītha ghidham
vividhāś cha pṛīthak cheṣṭā daivam chaibātra pañchamam.

The following are the factors operating towards the accomplishment of actions, viz., the time and sincerity of action, the different methods adopted, conglomeration of other forces and the will of *Ishwara*.

43

यज्ञदानतपःकर्म न त्याज्यं कार्यमेव तत् ।
यज्ञो दानं तपश्चैव पावनानि मनीषिणाम् ।

Jangya-dāna-tapah-karma na tyājanā kāriyameba tat
jagyo dānam tapas' chaiba pābanāni maniṣi ḥām

Acts of sacrifice, charity and penance may be performed, as sacrifice, charity and penance are true love of *Ishwara*. These are purifiers of wise men.

44

दुःखमित्येव यत्कर्म कायकलेशभयात्यजेत् ।
स कृत्वा राजसं त्यागं नैव त्यागफलं लभेत् ।

Dukham mityeba yat-karma kāya klesa-bhayāt tyajet
sa kṛitwā rājasam tyāgam naiba tyāga phalam labhet

Should anyone do renunciation for fear of physical discomfort, practising such form of renunciation is *Rajasika* which reaps not the fruit of renunciation.

45

न हि देहभूता शक्यं त्यक्तुं कर्मण्यशेषतः ।
यस्तु कर्मफलत्यागी स त्यागीत्यभिधीयते ।

Na hi deha bhṛitā śakyam tyaktum karmānyadesat
yastu karma phala tyāgī sa tyāgī tyabhi dhīyate

All actions cannot be given up in their entirety by anyone possessing a body, he alone who renounces the fruit of actions is called a man of renunciation.

46

इदं ते नातपस्काय नाभक्ताय कदाचन ।
न चाशुश्रूषवे वाच्यं न च मां योऽभ्यसूयति ।

Idam te nātapaskāya nābhaktāya kadāchana
na chāśu śrūṣabe vāchyam na cha mām yo'bhyasūyati

This secret gospel of the Gita should never be imparted to a man who lacks penance, nor to him who is wanting in devotion, nor even to him who lends not a willing ear ; and in no case to him who finds fault with *Ishwara*.

47

अश्रद्धानाः पुरुषा धर्मस्यास्य परंतप ।
अप्राप्य मां निवर्तन्ते मृत्युसंसारवर्त्मनि ।

Asradhadhānāḥ puruṣā dharmasyāsyā parantapa
aprāpya mām nivartante mrityu-saṅsāra-vartmanī

People having no faith in his religion, will fail to understand *Ishwara*. And in whatever may be the aspiration, they will revolve in the path of despair and death.

48

क्लैब्यं मा स्म गमः पार्थ नैतत्त्वयुपपद्यते ।
क्षुद्रं हृदयदौर्बल्यं त्यक्त्वोत्तिष्ठ परंतप ।

Klaibyam mā sma gamah pārtha naitat tbayyu papadyate
khudram hṛidaya-daurbalyang tyakto tiṣṭha parantapa

Yield not to unmanliness. Shake off this cowardice faint-heartedness. Stand up, you scorcher of enemies.

DAILY PRAYER - Must for a Hindu

MANTRA

(Hymn to invoke Ishwara's blessings)

All Hindus are required to recite the following *mantras* and do *pranayama* at least twice a day. All men, women, even a child who is ten years old and above must recite the following minimum *mantras*. If these *mantras* are recited audibly in Vedic melodious rhythm, they will bestow on the reciter health, wealth, power, peace and tranquility. It is believed that the reciter will achieve success in all his efforts and will lead a very happy life. The recitation can be done at any time and at any place but for best result, pray early morning and early evening in a temple or in a garden with others in the form of a chorus. For many thousand years, these *mantras* proved powerful. Melodious recitation creates a super natural vibration which forms an invisible protective shell around the reciter. Modern science is yet to reveal the reason for the potency of these *mantras*. Any person, even if he is not a Hindu, can recite these *mantras* and will receive benefits.

ॐ श्री विष्णुः ॐ श्री विष्णुः ॐ श्री विष्णुः

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्‌सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि ।
धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ॥

Aum Śrī Viṣṇuh, Aum Śrī Viṣṇuh, Aum Śrī Viṣṇuh,

Aum bhūrbhuvaḥ svaḥ tatsaviturvarenyam bhargo devasya dhīmahi
dhīyo yo nah̄ pracodayāt

ॐ जवाकुसुमसंकाशं काश्यपेयं महाद्युतिम् ।
ध्वान्तारिं सर्वपापघ्नं प्रणतोऽस्मि दिवाकरम् ॥

Aum javākusuma saṁkāśam kāśyapeyam mahādyutim
dhvāntārim sarvapāphgnam praṇatosmi divakaram

ॐ वक्रतुण्ड महाकाय सूर्यकोटिसमप्रभ
निर्विघ्नं कुरु मे देव सर्वकार्येषु सर्वदा ॥

ॐ नमो गणपतये । ॐ नमो गणपतये ॥

Aum vakratuṇḍa mahākāya sūryakoṭisamaprabha
nirvighnam kurū me deva sarvakāryeṣu sarvadā
Aum namo Gaṇapataye Aum namo Gaṇapataye

ॐ बन्दे सर्वभूते विराजमानम् ईश्वरम् एकमेवाद्वितीयम् ।

प्रणमामि देवरूपेण तान् सर्वान् ईश्वरप्रेरितदूतान् ॥

ईश्वर-प्रेरिता दूता आगच्छन्ति देवरूपेण पुनः पुनः ।

तन्मध्ये श्रेष्ठत्रयं ब्रह्मविष्णुमहेश्वराः ॥

Aum bande sarvabhūte virājamānam Īśvaram ekamevādvitīyam
praṇamāmi devarūpeṇa tān sarvān Īśvarapreritadūtān
Īśvara-preritā dūtā āgacchanti devarūpeṇa punah punah
tanmadhye śreṣṭhatrayam Brahma Viṣṇu Maheśvarāḥ

ॐ नमो ब्रह्मण्य देवाय गो ब्राह्मण हिताय च ।

जगद्धिताय कृष्णाय गोविन्दाय नमो नमः ॥

Aum namo brahmaṇya devāya go brāhmaṇa hitāya ca
jagaddhitāya kṛiṣṇāya Govindāya namo namah

ॐ कृष्णाय वासुदेवाय हरये परमात्मने ।

प्रणत क्लेशनाशाय गोविन्दाय नमो नमः ॥

Aum Kṛiṣṇāya vāsudevāya haraye paramātmane
pranata kleśanāśāya Govindāya namo namah

ॐ नागेन्द्रहाराय त्रिलोचनाय भस्माङ्गरागाय महेश्वराय ।

नित्याय शुद्धाय दिगम्बराय तस्मै नकाराय नमः शिवाय ॥

Aum Nāgendrahārāya Trilocanāya bhasmāṅga rāgāya Maheśvarāya
nityāya śuddhāya digambarāya tasmai nakārāya namaḥ Śivāya

ॐ मन्दाकिनी सलिल-चन्दनचर्चिताय

नन्दीश्वर-प्रमथनाथ-महेश्वराय ।

मन्दारपुष्प-बहुपुष्प सुपुजिताय तस्मै मकाराय नमः शिवाय ॥

Aum Mandākinī salila candana carcitāya

Nandīśvara-pramathanātha-Maheśvarāya

Mandārapuspa-bahupuspa supujitāya Tasmai makārāya namah Śivāya

ॐ नमः शिवाय शान्ताय कारणत्रयहेतवे ।

निवेदयामि चात्मानं त्वं गतिः परमेश्वरः ॥

*Aum namah Śivāya śāntāya kāraṇatrayahetave
nivedayāmi cātmānam tvaṁ gatiḥ parameśvarah*

ॐ त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे सुगन्धिं पुष्टिवर्धनम् ।

उर्वारुकमिव बन्धनान्मृत्योर्मुक्षीय मामृतात् ॥

*Aum tryambakam yajāmahe sugandhim puṣṭivardhanam
urvārukamiva bandhanān mrityormukṣīya māmrītāt*

ॐ सर्वमण्डेंलमण्डेंल्यें, शिवे सर्वार्थसाधिके ।

शरण्ये त्र्यम्बके गौरि नारायणि नमोऽस्तु ते !

*Aum sarvamaṅgalamaṅgalyeṁ, śive sarvārthasādhike
śaranye tryambake gouri Nārāyaṇi namostute*

ॐ त्रिमस्तकानां ज्ञानम् एकशिरे अवस्थितं ।

चतुर्बाहुतुल्यबलं द्विहस्ते रोपितम् ॥

भक्तेच्छापूरणार्थं पुनः पुनः आविर्भूतम् ।

प्रणमामि तं हि ईश्वरप्रेरितदूतम् ॥

Aum trimastakānām jñānam ekaśire avasthitam

caturbāhutulyabalaṁ dvihaste ropitam

bhaktechchāpūraṇārthanā punaḥ punaḥ āvirbhūtam

praṇamāmī tam hi Īśvarapreritdūtam

ॐ य आस्तिको धर्मनिष्ठः स वै शुरो न नास्तिकः ।
 नास्तिकः कापुरुषोऽभुत् पृथिव्यां परिधावति ॥
 एकाशं स्वोपार्जिनेस्य देयम् दीनजनाय ।
 यो भुञ्जीत-स्वयमेव, स मोघं केवलादी च ॥

Aum ya āstiko dharmaniṣṭhaḥ sa vai śūro na nāstikah
 nāstikah kāpuruṣo' bhut pṛithivyāṁ paridhāvati
 ekāśaṁ svopārjanesyā deyam dīnajanāya
 yo bhumjīta-svayameva sa mogham kevalādī ca

ॐ ईशावास्यमिदं सर्वं यत् किञ्च जगत्यां जगत् ।
 तेन त्यक्तेन भुञ्जीथा मा गृधः कस्यस्विद्धनम् ॥
 Aum Īśā vāsyamidaṁ sarvam् yat kiñca jagatyāṁ jagat
 tena tyaktena bhuñjithā mā gṛidhaḥ kasyasviddhanam

ॐ त्वमेव माता च पिता त्वमेव, त्वमेव वन्धुश्च सखा त्वमेव ।
 त्वमेव विद्या द्रविणं त्वमेव, त्वमेव सर्वं मम देवदेव ॥
 Aum Tvameva mātā ca pitā Tvameva, Tvameva bandhuśca sakhā Tvameva
 Tvameva vidya draviṇāṁ Tvameva, Tvameva sarvarāṁ mama devadeva

The minimum religious duty of every Hindu man and woman are to (a) recite fifteen hymns (*mantras*) (b) to do *Pranayama* and (c) to perform *Bhoj Utsav* (see Q & A no. 116 of *Smriti Sastra*). After reciting above fifteen hymns, one should do minimum 10 minutes *Pranayama* either seating on a chair or seating on the floor in ‘*Padmasan*’ posture. In case *Pranayama* cannot be done along with recitation of hymn due to time shortage, it should be done at least once during the day. While doing *Pranayama* always sit with a straight spine and a relaxed body. While you do *Pranayama*, let your mind be thought free. Chanting of hymns and doing *Pranayama* improves your position in heaven and earth to a great extent. The devout will always get ultimate favourable justice of *Ishwara*.

Prāṇāyāma is simple. To do one round; shut the right nostril with the thumb and inhale air to maximum extent through the left nostril; close left nostril with forefinger, open the right nostril and exhale through the right, then inhale into the right nostril; close the right nostril, open the left, and exhale through the left nostril. Continue, doing for minimum 10 minutes. One may learn it from a yoga teacher also.

Those Hindus who perform religious duties will get great health, respect, security, wealth in this life and will get heaven in after life (see Q & A no. 91 of *Smriti Sastra*). All devout may note that *Ishwara* is a single supreme being who creates and sustains everything in the orderly cosmos. *Ishwara* watches over us and responds to our prayers. Manifestation of *Ishwara* is immune to scientific scrutiny as by design, *Ishwara* leaves no observable consequences.

Recitor and their near and dear ones will be protected from any misfortune. The above fifteen *mantras* is enough for avarage people. However, if one has time and inclination, additional *mantras* may be recited during the *puja* of various deities or conduct of various social customs like marriage, funeral, shradha etc.

BHAJAN - CHANTING LORD'S PRAISE

Bhajan's are songs in Lord's praise, to be sung during religious and social functions preferable in chorus.

भजतामीशं जपतामीशं समवेतं सर्वं जनेषु रे
नाशितं सर्वं प्रभेदजनो ईशमनसि खलु स वसति रे ॥
भजतामीशं जपतामीशं समवेतं सर्वं जनेषु रे
य विश्वसिति परमेश्वरं भयहीनः खलु स भवति रे ॥
भजतामीशं जपतामीशं समवेतं सर्वं जनेषु रे
यः करोति स्वधर्मं रक्षामीशं मनसि खलु स वसति रे ॥
भजतामीशं जपतामीशं समवेतं सर्वं जनेषु रे
यः पुजयति परमेश्वर-अमरं लोकं खलु स गच्छति रे ॥

Bhajatāmīśam japatāmīśam samavetam sarba janeṣu re
nāśita sarva prabhedo janā īśamanasi khalu sa vasati re
bhajatāmīśam japatāmīśam samavetam sarva janeṣu re
ya viśvasati parameśvaraṁ bhayahīnah khalu sa bhavati re
bhajatāmīśam japatāmīśam samavetam sarva janeṣu re
yah karoti svadharma rakṣāmīśa manasi khalu sa vasati re
bhajatāmīśam japatāmīśam samavetam sarva janeṣu re
yah pujayati parameśvara-amara lokam khalu sa gacchati re

HEAVEN AND HELL

There are seven layers of heaven and heavenly pleasure and comfort. *Ishwara* sends human to live a courageous life with a mission to struggle for causes dear to Him.

He wants His believers do good to His masses and fear his ordains. Human in lower levels of heaven takes rebirth when he repents his failures in the world. He begs *Ishwara* for another chance to do good works in the world he had left behind.

The highest level of heaven is for the devout who is courageous even to make supreme sacrifice to protect the masses from deviating away from *Ishwara*, is fearful of His wrath, who is humble in daily prayer, does regular *pranayam*, arranges or attends *Bhoj Utsav* once in every month, works hard to make world a better place, helps the needy and support the community temple and its priest, respect the law of the land.

The devout will go to heaven. In heaven *Ishwara* will keep for the devout a great dwelling place facing the sea and rear side will face snow-capped hills. The devout will have admiring friends, respect, prominence, joy and true knowledge.

Devout will have most tasty good food for asking, will have attractive, healthy and pleasantly active partner for most satisfying conjugal life (see Gita Sloka no. 11) and will have daily orgasm. The conjugal partner will take different forms each day of the human heroes and heroines whom the *devout* had always appreciated.

All that is good and desirable will be available at command. The *devout* will be near *Ishwara* every day and will enjoy supreme bliss in the Heaven.

The enemy of the devout will go to hell and will be put in boiling oil, will get conjugal partner afflicted by leprosy. He will be forced to eat thornes like cactus and 13 days old rotten stinking meat of rat as regular food and will always remain thirsty and full of various painful ailments and in the company of wicked, condemned sinners and stinking dead bodies.

Those who do not fear the wrath of *Ishwara* and is not respectful to his ordains, those who allow themselves to be used for surrounding the Hindus with people of hostile faith and those who have no respect for Ishwara will go to hell.

These fifth columnist sow the seed for mass killing of the *Ishwara*-faithfuls. Their action, omissions and commissions helps build future slaughter house for the faithful of *Ishwara*. They are destined to hell.

Any devout Hindu will reach heaven and will be purged all his sin should he master the courage to deliver the severest punishment to these fifth columnists and make their journey quick and fast.

IDOL WORSHIP

“Each one of us is heir apparent to the Emperor of Emperors, the Ishwara”.

ISHWARA is the only one supreme God to a Hindu. The Supreme is described as that from which the entire universe of names and forms has arisen. That in which the world continues to exist and that unto which alone the world will ultimately merge. There is no question of having any other God as *ISHWARA* (*ISHWARA* is also known as *Devathey/Devadu/Ishwaran/Kadavul/Iraivan*) is omnipotent and omnipresent, who needs no partner to discharge his duties. Veda sloka says:

ईश्वरः परमैकस्वरूपः ॥

स नित्यः सर्वव्यापी विभुरनादिरनन्तश्च स निराकारो निरूपो वर्णनातीतो निष्कम्पश्च ।
द्वृचित् शब्दरूपेण स आत्मानं प्रकाशयति स विधाता
कारणानां कारणं तथा सर्वशक्तिमान् तदिच्छापुराणाय कस्यापि सहायस्य प्रयोजनं न वर्तते
यती द्वितीयः कोऽपि नास्ति ॥

Īśvaraḥ paramaikasvarūpah,
Sa nityaḥ sarvavyāpī vibhuranādiranantaśca sa
nirākāro nirūpo varṇānatīto niṣkampaśca,
kvacit śabdarūpeṇa sa ātmānam prakāśayati sa vidhātā
kāraṇānām kāraṇam tathā sarvaśaktimān tadicchā puraṇāya kasyāpi
sahāyasya prayojanam na vartate
yatī dvitīyah ko’pi nāsti.

Ishwara is one supreme entity. He is absolute, all pervading and eternal. He has no beginning and no end. He has no form, colour or description. Sometimes in the form of sound, He manifests Himself. He is the creator, the cause of causes. He is all-powerful and does not require help from anyone else to carry out his desire. Why ? None else but He ever exists.

This supreme reality is *Ishwara* which is also called *Vishnu*. One should not confuse *Vishnu* with *Bishnu* and *Brahma* with *Bramha*. *Bishnu* and *Bramha* were first prophets of *Sanatana Dharma*. One should be careful

as the similarity of spelling sometimes creates confusion. The word *Vishnu* originates from the root *VIS* meaning to pervade. *Vishnu* is all-pervading. *Ishwara* has no beginning and no end.

Ishwara did not require a parent. It is not parents but the human beings who gave the supreme entity a name i.e. *Ishwara*. People of various religions call him by various names. Hindus called him *Ishwara / Vishnu / Brahma / Devadu / Ishwaran / Kadavu / Iraivan* etc. The symbol of *Ishwara* is ‘ॐ’ (Om).

Veda says :

ईश्वरः तस्य दूतरूपेण पृथिव्यां प्रेरयति देवान्
तस्माच्च मडें-लं मनुष्यत्वं प्रापत्तेति ॥

Iśvarah tasya dūtarūpeṇa pr̄ithivyāṁ prerayati devān
tasmācca mangalam manuṣyatvam pr̄apnoti.

Ishwara sends devtas as his messengers to regions of the world from where good accrues to humanity.

The Hindus believe that *Ishwara* sends a part of himself as messiah (*Devata*) to the people of the world so that men and women are guided towards more fulfilling, harmonious human life. *Devatas* are human messiahs.

These messiahs are treated by Hindus as replicas of *Ishwara* and they are called *Devata*. They are greatly loved and respected Hindu heroes & heroines. The Hindus believe that after their *LILA* (i.e. worldly life as a mortal human being) in this world they go back to merge with *Ishwara*.

The Hindus believe that even when the *Devatas* are not present in this world, they can still guide and help. The Hindus make statues of the messiah and pray to *Ishwara* using them as media. These messiahs are known as idols or *Devatas*.

The Hindus know that the idol is not *ISHWARA*. It is only a medium to concentrate on *Ishwara* and showing respect to the image is actually praying to the Almighty through the known image of *Ishwara*.

Any one will salute his national flag wherever in the world he may find it. Every one knows the national flag is only a piece of fabric and colour and not the nation. However, one is prepared to even lay down his life if he

finds that his national flag is being insulted. Respecting the national flag is an example of idol worship.

No one prays to the stone statue but prays to *Ishwara*. That is the reason why before all mantras (hymn) one first says Ō i.e., ‘ॐ’ which means in Sanskrit “*Ishwara* is the greatest”.

Hindus immerse their idol after worship to prove that the material of the idol is not important. To concentrate one's mind on the concept of *Ishwara*'s image through the idol is useful.

Super human achievements in the use of weapons or in the field of knowledge were exaggerated by story-tellers who created myths about the *Devatas*. Overzealous artists and sculptors gave unnatural form to suit their metaphorical and wild imagination. All *Devatas* were human beings and none was above natural law. All *Devatas* had one head and two hands.

Hindu hymns (mantra) explain this as :

त्रिमस्तकानां ज्ञानम् एकशिरे अवस्थितं
चतुर्बाहुतुल्यबलं द्विहस्ते रोपितम् ॥
भक्तेच्छापूरणार्थं पुनः पुनः आविभूतम्
प्रणमामि त्वां हि ईश्वरप्रेरितदूतम् ॥
Trimastakanām jñānam ekasire avasthitam
catur bāhutulya balam dvihaste ropitam
Bhaktechchā pūraṇārtham punah punah āvibhūtam
praṇamāmi tāvam hi Īśvara prerita dūtam.

Oh Ishwara you sent messiahs in human form time and again. These messiahs are very wise and in their one head they have the capabilities of three heads. Their two hands are powerful enough to work as if four hands are working. We all bow to these Ishwara's messengers.

In the course of the last 20000 years, the Hindus were bestowed with many messiahs / prophets and treated them as the incarnation of the *Adi-devtas* (*BRAHMA*, *BISHNU* and *MAHESHWAR*). For example *Ram* who was born about 5000 years back and *Krishna* who was born about 3500 years back are both treated as incarnations of Bishnu and receive homage, love and respect.

A Hindu loves *Ishwara* and would always like to be near *Ishwara*. That is why ordinary Hindus who have not read the Vedas and Gita, worship Idols.

Those who have knowledge of Vedas and Gita, know that *Ishwara* is the only God. *HE* deserves everything that a human being can offer. Idols are only *HIS* representations. It is only proper to pray to *Ishwara*.

When Hinduism was expanding it tolerated and assimilated all tribes and sections of people of various parts of the world and had shown respect to their way of life and their heroes, their idols. As a result, many idols have come to be regarded as Hindu idols. These idols may be revered by one section of Hindus when another section may not even know of its existence and may not even appreciate such idols. Name of the God as per dialect also varies.

In north India God is worshipped as *Ishwara*, where as in southern states of India they are worshipped as *Murthy/Vigraham* (idol), *Ishwara/Ishwaradu* (God), *Lord Venkateswara/Lord Balaji (Bishnu)*, *Murugan/Shanmukha/Kumar Swamy (Kartikeya)* respectively.

However, all Hindus are united because all believe in the uniqueness of the all-pervading, all powerful supreme entity (*Ishwara/Devathey/Devadu/Devthai/Kadavul/Iraivan*) who is the cause of all causes.

Seventh chapter, hymn number twenty of Gita says clearly that one obtains fruit by praying to *Ishwara*, but those who have lost their reasoning power and being of ignorant nature, worship deities, i.e. idols of Devatas:

कामैस्तैस्तैर्हतज्ञानाः प्रपद्यन्तेऽन्यदेवताः ।
तं तं नियममास्थाय प्रकृत्या नियताः स्वया ॥
kāmais tais tair hatajñānāḥ prapadyante'nya devatāḥ
tam tam niyamamāsthāya prakṛityā niyatāḥ svayā

Those whose wisdom has been carried away by various desires, being prompted by their own nature, worship other deities besides *Ishwara* adopting rules relating to each.

THE CASTE SYSTEM

The Caste system is a social exploitation and moral corruption introduced by the central Asian invaders to divide and rule the Hindus. Before these invaders came, there was a broad division of labour into four categories. During the early Rig Vedic period, the same family had members engaged in different vocations. Those who chose to pursue education were called *Brahmins*, those who opted to be good at martial arts were called *Kshatriyas*, intelligent persons who had a lot of property or do business were called *Vaisyas*, craftsmen and skilled artisans were called *Sudras* and were engaged in jobs of their liking and specialisation.

Around 4500 B.C. to 3500 years B.C. nomadic horse riding warrior groups from central Asia invaded India. The new rulers converted the economic categorization of profession into four major castes as *Brahmins*, *Kshatriyas*, *Vaisyas* and *Sudras*.

Those who were not educated and had no particular skill were of no interest to the new rulers and were left to fend for themselves. Today they are known as *Dalits*.

The caste system was a social order where skill and knowledge were passed on from parent to child. There was no technical training or school in those days. There was no paper or written books. There was no way to acquire skill and knowledge. Training in skill and knowledge passed from generation to generation. Inter-caste transfer was, however, prevalent and normal amongst Hindus.

The invaders with their natural thirst for blood subjugated the peace loving country but found it extremely difficult to match the moral strength and courage of conviction of the native people.

The invaders became the new rulers and they misused the caste system and made the economic division of labour into a pseudo-religious matter and tried to administer it as water-tight compartments, as if, it had a religious sanction. It must be appreciated that everywhere in the world a social error, if continued for a long time, gets the force of law.

Water-tight compartmentalization of the caste system was the gravest error of Hindu society, which wily politicians through generations exploited to divide and rule. Some groups of people who were benefitted through it supported the system.

The philosophy of *Sanatana Dharma* gave tremendous moral strength to the Hindus and the invaders found it very difficult to convert people of this faith.

Nearly always the new masters sought and received help of hypocrites (*Mithyachari*) to divide Hindus and weaken them. Hypocrites (*Mithyachari*) refers to fifth columnists who pretended to be devout Hindus and humanists but actually destroyed the society to satisfy their own selfish narrow ends, ego, greed and to please the powers that be. Many times they misguided the people and made way for foreign conquerors to come and loot the Hindus.

People were vastly illiterate, ignorant, misinformed and suffered from abject poverty. With the passage of time vested interest grew in the court of the new rulers and in the competition to grab the meagre resources each group developed 'in group' and 'out group' psychology.

Thousands of years of this economic divide turned the caste system into a social disease. And to perpetuate this exploitation, hypocrites mischievously gave it the colour of religion.

Gita is against caste system and very clearly said that caste is job division according to professional qualities and is a division of labour established by people. *Ishwara* (i.e. religion) is not involved in this. Following two Gita slokas are interesting.

ब्राह्मणक्षत्रियविशां शुद्राणां च परंतप ।

कर्माणि प्रविभक्तानि स्वभावप्रभवैर्गुणैः ।

brāhmaṇa kṣatriya-viśāṁ śudrāṇāṁ ca paramāntapa
karmāṇi pravibhaktā-ni svabhāva-prabhavaire-guṇaiḥ.

The designation of the Brahmins, the kṣatriyas and the Vaisyas, as well as of the Śūdras is to be divided according to manifestation of their professional qualities.

चातुर्वर्ण्य मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः ।
 तस्य कर्तारमपि मां विद्ध्यकर्तारमव्ययम् ।
 cātūrvarṇam̄ mayā sṛiṣṭam̄ guṇa-karma-vibhā-gaśah
 tasya kartāramapi mām viddhyakartāramavyayam.

The four orders of society are dominant according to the predominant qualities and involvement in corresponding duties ; and created through humans like us, the immortal Lord is not involved.

Economic and political skulduggery made religion a dirty cess pool. The Hindus became a divided house. *Sanatana Dharma* i.e. *HINDUISM* never prescribed casteism but the adherents tolerated it out of compulsion and ignorance and *Ishwara* became displeased and ordained that followers of caste system will remain poor, weak and enslaved.

It is said *Ishwara* ordained that anyone who will denounce casteism and will work for unifying the Hindus will get eternal heaven and will also help his forefathers reach their heavenly abode.

To prove that the caste system was political and economic exploitation and not a religious matter, a look at Bengal is revealing. In 1200 A.D. there was a powerful king in Bengal, India. His name was Ballal Sen. During his rule, Nath Brahmins (also known as Rudraja Brahmins) were considered to be a highly respected Brahmin caste and were acting as royal priests.

Pitambar Nath was the royal priest of King Ballal Sen. When the father of the king died, the king wanted his guru Pitambar Nath to take the *Pinda Dan* (i.e. items given during the funeral of a person) as a royal gift. Pitambar Nath refused to accept any gift, connected with the funeral, from the King. The King took this refusal as an insult and out of his egoistic rage took away the sacred thread of Sri Pitambar Nath (sacred thread was the sign of the Brahmin caste) and issued a royal decree that all persons known as *Rudraja/Nath Brahmin* i.e., high caste will henceforth be treated as *Sudra*, i.e. low caste.

Since then the time of Ballal Sen, *Nath/Rudraja* clan persons were treated as *Sudras* in Bengal; but outside Bengal the same *Naths* are highly respected Brahmin priests. This is an example to prove that the caste

system is not a matter of the Hindu religion but a political exploitation of Hindu society by wily politicians.

It is said in the *Puranas* (i.e. old scriptures) that *Nath Brahmins (Rudraja Brahmins)* are descendants of Lord Shiva (also known as Lord Rudra). In Nepal (the only Hindu country), even now the royal priest is a Nath Brahmin. In Kolkata (India) the first priest of the famous Kali temple was Sri Chowringhee Nath. Kolkata's main road is named in his memory and is known as Chowringhee Road.

Few famous Naths were Somnath, Gorakhnath etc. in whose memory the great Somnath temple (Gujarat) and Gorakhnath temple (Uttar pradesh) were built. These facts prove again that the caste system has nothing to do with the Hindu religion.

In 'Ban Parba' of Mahabharata i.e. happenings during the days of Pandav's banishment in forest, four brothers of Pandav were made unconscious by Yaksha. The four brothers drank water without permission from Yaksha's water body. When, Yudhisthira the eldest brother of Pandav, arrived in search of his four brothers, Yaksha said he will give antidote to the four brothers if Yudhisthira gave correct answers to his twelve questions. Yaksha's ninth question to Yudhisthir was

राजन् कुलेन वृत्तेन स्वाध्यायेन श्रुतेन वा ।
ब्राह्मणं केन भवति प्रब्रूह्येतत् सुनिश्चितम् ॥

(बनपर्व ३१३ अध्याय, खलोक १०७)

"What makes one a Brahmin — birth, character, study or wisdom".

Yudhisthir replied -

शृणु यक्ष कुलं तात न स्वाध्यायो न च श्रुतम् ।
कारणं हि द्विजंत्वे च वृत्तमेव न संशयः ॥

(बनपर्व ३१३ अध्याय, खलोक १०८)yāya 108)

"Neither birth nor study nor wisdom, it is character alone that makes one a Brahmin".

This is another proof from Mahabharata that man's caste belonging to is not by birth but by choice.

The Indian caste system is an issue born out of economic management (job distribution) and political exploitations.

During the Gupta period in India, *Brahmins /Kshatriyas* took to the business of artisans as a normal phenomenon. A Brahmin named *Mayursharma*

adopted the profession of warrior and established the Kadamba kingdom. Another Brahmin named *Matrikishnu* took the profession of Kshatriya and became the governor of a State under the Gupta Kingdom. *Pradosh Varman* was a *Sudra* by caste but worked as a Kshatriya and became the governor of a province.

During the Gupta period many Brahmins took to the lucrative profession of hunting in the forest. Many individuals from a *Sudra* background built the famous Sun temple of Mandasore. These are some examples to prove that the caste system was only a division of labour in the Hindu society.

During the Vedic period the concept of untouchability, with respect to the *Sudras* or anyone else as a dalit/untouchable did not exist. Any condemnation of a person was due mainly to his / her engaging in an activity not useful or acceptable to the society. It was, however, prevalent that any type of socially stigmatic situation could be improved through penance and by changing one's behaviour.

The learning process in the old days was long and lasted for decades in hermitages in harsh and forest-like conditions. Knowledge was exchanged between the guru and the pupils. It was usually in the oral tradition since written manuscripts were scarce. The children were predisposed through the natural and continuous exposure to the family business and were readily inducted by their parents into their traditional professions. Over a time, this method of selecting the professions inadvertently gave rise to the tradition of vocation-based families all around, even though society had not sought such an outcome.

Hindu society remained flexible and allowed people the freedom of choice in their undertakings (e.g., Satyakama was a *Sudra* by birth but became a most respected Brahmin by learning the Vedas). During the Vedic period anyone could become a priest. The question of reservation of the position for the Brahmin did not arise. Veda sloka says:

पवित्रात्मा संयतेन्द्रियः पेशलां मधु जीौवा च
तं गुरुं श्रद्धया श्रिणु उपहार च प्रयच्छतु ॥
Pavitrātmā samyatendriyah Peśalāṁ madhujīhvā ca.
Tam gurum śraddhayā śrīṇu upahār ca prayacchatu.

Any person who has pure mind, control on desire and can recite slokas melodiously may lead a prayer as purohit (Guru) for whom the benefactors may provide in plenty.

It was deemed vocationally advantageous and convenient for a couple to

marry within same caste as their common background, enabled them to get involved in their family occupation quickly without facing any uncertainty or requiring any additional apprenticeship. Moreover, the bride and the groom in this type of a wedding arrangement would be less likely to encounter any unexpected, unfamiliar, inhospitable and unwanted post-marital social situations.

The marriages among people from vastly different backgrounds were allowed and also frequently took place (In the Mahabharat we see Satyavati, daughter of a sudra fisherman and Shantanu, the Kshatriya king marrying and society imposed no restrictions). The caste system was basically an arbitrary social custom which arose over a period on the direction of the rulers and also as a matter of convenience whereby the people stuck to their family professions and also married within the same type of families i.e. vocations. However, birth in certain caste if caused poverty or physical exploitation is a sorrowful wrong thing and not acceptable to Hindu Religion. One must work to compensate the aggrieved. In this regard the *Sama Veda* sloka is relevant. Ishwara do not appreciate exploitation but desires his followers to treat everybody equal and nurse the afflicted one.

यो ददाति बुभूक्षितेभ्यः पीडितानां सहायकः
दुःखार्ताणां समाश्लष्यति तमेव ईशः प्रसीदति ॥

*yo dadāti bubhūkṣitebhyaḥ pīḍitānāṁ sahāyakah
duḥkhārtāṇāṁ samāślaṣyati tameva iśaḥ prasīdati.*

Ishwara is glad when you gladden the heart of a human being, when you feed the hungry, when you help the afflicted and lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful and remove the wrongs done to the injured.

After thousand years of foreign bondage India got freedom in 1947 and became free to eradicate the evil social divide i.e. the caste system. India adopted reservation of jobs and quotas of seats in educational institutes for those who suffered for generations due to caste consideration.

Practising caste system is punishable by law in India. Modern educated Hindus are not in favour of the caste system and denounce it strongly.

MANU SMRITI

In the period approximately 3500 B.C. a group of invaders from the north western boundary of India came and conquered the country. They not only subjugated the temporal life of its citizens but wanted a cultural invasion also. They tried to incorporate their ritualistic religion into Indian religious life. They tried even to influence the Vedas in a big way. The Vedas were the guiding light in the theological realm, inter-personal relations, social behaviour and were monotheist in nature. It was forced to be intermingled with the Iranian method of Sun and Indra worship and sacrificial rituals. Many saints fled to the south of India and to the caves of the Himalayas. Iranians and Asia minor rulers wanted to divide the society to make it weak, subservient and useful for their royal work. Later, around 3250 B.C. Manu propounded a strong rule of social job distribution and named it *Manu Smriti*. Manu himself was a brilliant person and came during the later part of Vedic period. Veda is the actual religion of *Sanatana Dharma* (i.e. Hinduism). *Manu Smriti* was a work aimed to help foreign subjugation. Hindus would do well to realize the trick played on them through the social division created by Manu. However, the mathematical work done by Manu was brilliant and is a service to science.

Manu is an ancient author of an important Sanskrit treatise on law, the *Manu Smriti*. The name Manu means simply 'man'. There is a great similarity with the German word. Manu has also been compared with that of Mannus which the Germans use. 'Manu' may thus reflect an ancient Indo-European tradition, although the possibility remains open that *Manu* was a parallel but independent development, as in the case of the Hebrew Adam (also meaning 'man'). The *Shatapatha Brahmana*, an important post-Vedic religious book, recounts how Manu was warned by a fish to which he had done a kindness, that a flood would destroy a vast portion of mankind. He, therefore, built a boat, as the fish advised; and when the flood came he tied this boat to the fish's horn and was safely steered to a resting-place on a mountain top. In the *Puranas*, the fish is considered to be an incarnation of Vishnu.

In the exuberant cosmological speculations of later Hinduism, as expounded in the *Puranas* and in the *Manu Smriti* itself, there were said to be fourteen Manus, a separate one for each of the fourteen subsidiary cosmic periods within the great time cycle (*kalpa*) of 8,640,000,000 years. *Manvantara* i.e., our present time being the seventh in the current cycle. After the fourteenth Manu, the whole earth is destined to come to an end. And that is to be followed by a new creation in an endless series of creation and dissolution. Existence of Universe is, however, of limitless time.

Manu calculated that the man with some form of judgement and consciousness is existing in this world for last 2.5 million years though man, who would walk on two legs but with animal instinct was existing since last fifteen million years. *Ishwara*, however, created this solar system about 4000 million years back and it will exist for $8640 \times 360 \times 100$ million years. *Ishwara* gave 100 years 'Ishwara life' to our solar system as per Manu's mathematics.

The *Manu Smriti* (the 'Laws' or 'Code of Manu'), more formally called the *Manava Dharma Shastra* i.e., Religion Book of Humanity, is the book on legal and allied topics. It emphasises on transparency and clean administration by the king. He propounded that the best cause of the country will be served if the king is allowed to take a maximum six per cent tax on earning of his subjects. In addition to an outline of civil and criminal law, the text discusses at length the four traditional stages (*ashrama*) of a student life, married householder, hermit and finally the homeless ascetic. Division of labour was wrongly applied by foreign invaders to divide the nation and make it weak. Job division turned into social division and as a result it degenerated into social class (*varna*) which forms the historical basis of the caste system. *Manu Smriti* is thus a valuable source of information on the history of degeneration of the Indian political and social system. *Manu Smriti* has made the Hindus weak. As a punishment for emphasising *Manu Smriti* over Veda, India suffered subjugation at the hands of many foreign nations. According to the pure Vedic religion and sermons of Gita, the caste system is an illegal and criminal act. Some time even unknowingly people practise the caste system. Many Indian politicians still use *Manu Smriti* for their sectarian interest and keep the country divided and weak. They are all enemies of *Ishwara*.

UPANISADS

Upanisad means annihilating the ignorance completely. It leads the spiritual seeker nearer to *Ishwara*. The hymns of *Upanisads* awaken holy thoughts in the mind of spiritual aspirant. When hymns are chanted with intonations, the divine atmosphere is created with holy vibration all around.

There are 108 *Upanisads*. Most famous of them are *Katha*, *Kena*, *Mundaka*, *Mandukya*, *Prasnah*, *Chandogya*, *Svetaswantara*, *Ishavasya*, *Narayana*, *Mahanarayana*, *Taittiriya*, *Aitareya*, *Suryopanisad*, *Brihadaranyaka Upanisad*.

The *Upanisads* (16000-1000 B.C.) are ancient Indian treatises which inquire into the nature of the divine, principles and the means of salvation. They represent the final stage in the tradition of the Vedas, and so the development of thought that they unfold is known as the Vedanta ('concluding chapters of the Veda'). Most of the older *Upanisads* are later developments from the Vedas, but they reveal a philosophical as well as a practical approach to religious and material life elaborating on the inner meaning of the utterances of the later Rigvedic hymns. It deals with the realization that the individual's *atman* (soul) is one with the universal *Atman*, or Supreme being *BRAHMA*, the identity being summed up in the phrase 'tat tvam asi' (that thou art) of the *Chandogya Upanisad*. The nature of eternal life is discussed in the *Katha Upanisad*, other themes are transmigration and the doctrine of *Maya*, the illusory nature of the material world (in the *Svetasvatara Upanisad*).

The texts of the *Upanisads* are generally very short and summaries a speculative teaching, often through parables, a passage of dialogue for easy understanding of the moral of the story by the masses. The so called Vedic *Upanisads* are 13 in number; the remainder of about hundred are probably post-vedic, though many are influenced by the Vedas. The parables used by the poets, writers and artists on many occasions emphasized the martial skill of the *Devatas*. They depicted them, as if, possessors of several hands holding many different types of weapons.

Geological time scale of world & ten incarnations of Bishnu

Era	Sub-Era	Epoch	Begin – End (million years)	
Cenozoic	Quaternary	Holocene	0.0115 - 0.00	Lord Buddha, Sri Krishna & Sri Ram Abtar
		Pleistocene	1.81 - 0.0115	Parasuram Abtar
	Tertiary	Pliocene	2.59 - 3.60	Baman Abtar
		Miocene	7.25 - 20.4	Nrishingha Abtar
		Oligocene	23.4 - 28.4	
		Eocene	37.2 - 48.6	Baraha Abtar
		Paleocene	58.7 - 61.7	
Mesozoic	Cretaceous		70.6 - 140	Transition Phase
	Jurassic		151 - 197	
	Triassic		204 - 250	
Paleozoic	Permian		254 - 295	
	Carboniferous		304 - 345	
	Devonian		375 - 411	Matsya Abtar
	Silurian		419 - 439	
	Ordovician		446 - 479	
	Cambrian		496 - 534	
Pre-Cambrian	Proterozoic		630 - 2300	Bramha Era
	Archean		2800 - 3600	
	Hadean		3850 - 4150	

TEN INCARNATIONS OF BISHNU

In Hindu religion, the scientific chronology of earth's evolution is explained through Bishnu's ten incarnations. In Hindu religion, Bishnu is synonym with Paramatma i.e. *Ishwara*. Every living being has a soul i.e. *Atma*, which is part of *Param-atma*.

How *Bishnu* (i.e. *Ishwara*) has made evolution from nothing to today's human form is explained by the history of ten incarnations of *Bishnu* i.e. ten various states of soul (*Atma*). Ten incarnations of *Bishnu* are *Matsya* (Fish), *Kurma* (Tortoise), *Baraha* (Swine) *Nara Singha* (Half man half lion), *Baman* (Dwarf), *Parasuram*, *Ram*, *Sri Krishna*, *Bhagaban Buddha* and *Kalki*.

Long long ago, through the will of *Ishwara* a portion of the hot gaseous material escaped from Sun and started rotating around Sun. On being cooled, it consolidated into planet Earth. At the early stage, earth was full of water and first life came to planet Earth as fish (i.e. *Matsya*) Paleozoic Silurian-Devonian time period of earth's evolution known as Fish period of Earth's evolution. During that time Veda taught the art of procreation. Fish was the first incarnation of *Bishnu*.

The next period of earth's evolution was the Carboniferous epoch of Paleozoic era, i.e. the time when life was amphibious. Here animals learned to live by taking oxygen directly from air. The second incarnation of *Bishnu* was in the form of Tortoise i.e. an animal, which can live in both water and land.

The third incarnation of *Bishnu* was in the form of Swine (Baraha). Here the character of the animal-though it lives on land but feels comfortable in slash and mud. It learnt to give birth on earth and was a mammal. By nature it used its teeth to find food from beneath the earth's surface. (It is Eocene -Paleocene epoch in the tertiary period of earth's evolutionary process).

The fourth incarnation of *Bishnu* was *Nrishingha* i.e. half man and half animal. For example Chimpanzee, Orang Otang, Gorilla etc. were part human and part animal. Stories tell that *Nrishingha* vanquished the harmful

Hiranyakashipu through use of his teeth and nail. In evolution, food for human consumption were continuously destroyed by insects. The human were living on forest and their main staple food was banana. Banana plantations were being destroyed by a type of insect. Here the half man half animal Nrishingha developed a technique to save banana plantation from the insect by the use of teeth and nail and saved the food for human consumption. Till date these banana insects are mutual enemy of Orang Otang, Bebun etc. Thus banana took a special place in Hindu religious functions as it always remained very important food for human survival. This was the Oligocene-Miocene epoch of Cenozoic era of earth's evolution process.

The fifth incarnation of *Bishnu* was known as *Baman* i.e. Dwarf (Homogan. It is in Neogene period and Miocene division of evolution). In this form man was standing on two legs but took help of hands to move and in height it was almost half the size of today's man. It is known as *Baman* (Dwarf) Avtar of *Bishnu*.

The sixth incarnation of *Bishnu* was the full form of man i.e. *Parashuram*. He took the help of axe for his survival. He is not surviving on physical strength alone but by intellectually devised means of survival. He learnt the use of axe in producing food through methods of agriculture. He also learnt the use of fire. That is why in old religious literature he is called *Agnihotri* i.e. one who learnt to control the use of fire (Agni). *Parashuram* killed *Kartabijarjuna* (known as kshatria tree) and made the Kshatria's rootless twenty-one times and put his axe on the mother's chest to justify his duty. *Kartabijarjun* is a hard wood huge tree with thousand branches. *Parashuram* used his axe and cleaned the forest of *Kartabijarjun* trees twenty-one times to make land suitable for agriculture. This is the inner story of uprooting the Khatrias for twenty-one times. He used his axe to cut the mother earth's chest to make hard land into small dust so that he could use it for agriculture. From his time human existence saw agriculture based human civilization and *Parasuram* became invincible through use of new weapons i.e. his axe. *Parashuram* as the harbinger of agricultural revolution was the sixth incarnation of *Bishnu*. *Parashuram* was in the Pleistocene epoch of quaternary period of earth's evolution, i.e. the time

period when primitive method of agriculture was known to man.

The seventh incarnation of *Bishnu* was *Ram*. He used Bow and Arrow and could attack from a distance. His Bow and Arrow proved more effective than Axe. *Ram's* Bow and Arrow proved superior to *Parasuram's* Axe. From the time of *Lord Ram*, actual human civilization on the basis of kingdom started. He introduced the importance of public opinion in policy making for the state. *Ram* not only introduced democracy but he also saved *Ahalya* i.e. using plough to make agriculture in fallow land. *Ram* is also called '*Sitapati*' i.e. lord of *Sita*. *Sita* in Sanskrit language means '*Plough head*'. He introduced agriculture by use of plough and plough head. He used his knowledge for vast improvement in agriculture and resultant economic upliftment of common man. He was from Holocene epoch of Cenozoic era of earth's evolution.

The eighth incarnation was *Lord Krishna*. He was a perfect human being from all sides. He propagated the utility of knowledge in science, philosophy and ethical values. He set the standards of good and evil. He introduced modern thinking in political theory where all human can live with peace and dignity.

The ninth incarnation of *Bishnu* was *Lord Buddha – Siddhartha Gautam* or *Buddhadev*. He gave the world the sweetest three words '*Ahimsa Parama Dharma*' i.e. nonviolence is a great virtue.

The tenth incarnation of *Bishnu* was '*Kalki*' which mean one who will eradicate the sufferings of common mass by use of thermo-nuclear means.

BHAGAVAN MAHAVIR

Bhagavan Mahavir was son of Sidhartha, an influential Kshatria leader of Baisali. He was born 30th March, 599 B.C. Bhagavan Mahavir had everything. He enjoyed enormous wealth, a beautiful wife and a nice family. He was against the sacrificial rituals. He supported the reincarnation of Veda but was against the many rituals ‘Jajna’. He wanted to find the truth of human existence. He abandoned all worldly comfort and family life.

He taught his deciples that getting Salvation is the best form of joy. A Salvation comes through honest thinking, honest way of living, honest faith. He called them ‘TRI-RATNA’ i.e. three gemes.

Bhagavan Mahavir was the follower of Parsanath Tirthankar. Tirthankar established ‘Jainism’. Bhagavan Mahavir was a revolutionary. Vedic rituals and animal slaughter was extremely painful to him. He protested against Caste System. He said contribution of Bramhin need not be considered as superior. He showed that “Baisyas” i.e. business class people contribute more to humanity compared to the ritualistic Bramhins. Business community of Baisali started supporting and following Bhagavan Mahavir in big way. And they started calling themselves as Jains.

Jainism propounded four cardinal principals as (i) Non violence ii) Honest living (iii) Not to steal (iv) Not to covet others property. Bhagavan Mahavir added Bramhachariya (Celibacy) as the fifth principle. Bhagavan Mahavir wrote an important holy book named “Purba”. This book has twelve chapters known as “Dadash Anga” and followers of Bhagavan Mahavir adopted this book as their guide. ‘Jain Kalpasutra and Jaina Bhagabali Sutra’ are two other important sources to understand Bhagavan Mahavir’s philosophy. Followers of Bhagavan Mahavir, known as ‘Jains’, are strict vegetarians.

SRI SANKARA (ŚANKARACHARYA)

Sri Sankara, the greatest philosopher of all times and the greatest Hindu of his time, is generally supposed to have been born at Kaladi in Kerala on the Wet Coast of the peninsula in A.D. 788.

Even as a boy he attended the Vedic school. His sharp brain went prying into the soul of the sacred Vedic Lore and formulated, with astute genius, accurate definitions and exact analysis, a synthetic philosophy. He renounced the world before his mind could be contaminated by its viles, and embraced monotheism, dedicating his life to Ishwara-realization and, also, to bringing back the world to its pristine purity.

Assuring his mother that he would be at her bedside at her last moment, this passion-less recluse went in search of a teacher, who could formally initiate him into the mysteries of Sannyasa and show the way to the Supreme. At Omkarnath, on the river Narmada, Sankara found his guru in Govinda Bhagavatapada. He stayed with him exploring every facet of the supreme truth, and humbling himself in the modesty of wisdom.

In fulfilment of the mandate from his Guru to establish Adyaita Vedanta (One God Theory) as the meeting ground of all monistic and dualistic views, contradictory though they might appear to be, the young genius went to Varanasi, the ancient seat of Vedic religion and culture, and started spreading the gospel of ‘One God’ i.e. Ishwara. He held disputations with the learned leaders of various schools of thought, and, by uncovering false assumptions and questioning, assumed certainties, established the supremacy of his system of thought. Here the first four disciples of Sanandana, later known as Padmapada, joined him.

From Varanasi, the spiritual colossus journeyed on to Badrinath with his disciples, spreading the message of his synthetic philosophy. He visited many holy places such as Prayag, Hardwar, Hrishikesh, Srinagar, Rudraprayag, Nandaprayag, Kamarupa and Gomukhi, worshipped the Deities on the way, and thus demonstrated that a knower of Nirguna Brahma i.e *Ishwara*, loose nothing by paying homage to the statues of Devtas (Idols of messiahs). Śankara wrote commentaries on the ten Upanisads,

the Bhagavad Gita, Brahma Sutra and established his doctrine on a firm foundation.

Then he wandered about from place to place engaging himself in discussions with leaders of diverse creeds and sects, and, by his superb dialectic skill, he went on defiling false dogmas and puncturing erroneous presumptions.

Śankara travelled all over, the length and breadth of the vast sub-continent four times, established four principal monasteries at the four cardinal points of India, the Sringeri Math on the Sringeri hills in the South, the Sarada Math at Dwaraka in the West, the Jyotirmath at Badrik-ashrama in the North, and the Govardhana Math at Puri in the East and appointed his four chief disciples as pontiffs of these Maths (Temples) to promote the spiritual well-being of the monks and the people connected with the Math. He also assigned to each Math (Temple) one Veda. Thus, Rig Veda went to Govardhana Math, Yajur Veda to Sringeri Math, Sama Veda to Sarada Math and Atharva Veda to Jyotir Math.

Many obnoxious cults had vitiated the Indian society then, and temples were in the hands of a coterie of corrupt priests dabbling in hideous forms of worship and animal sacrifice. Sankara, with the help of scriptural evidence and his dialectic skill, proved that these militated against the very spirit of the Vedas. He reformed these corrupt practices by infusing into them the noble principles of worship of One Ishwara. He demonstrated that ideas of image worship is only to pay respect to messiahs but best result is obtained by praying to Ishwara.

His deep affection for his mother triumphed over the rules governing the order of sannyasins, and on her passing away, he performed the funeral rites of his mother in the face of stiff opposition from his relatives. During these day Sannyasins were not allowed to do last rights of parents.

He passed away in Kedarnath on the Himalayas, at the age of thirty-two.

HINDU MONK SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND HIS PHILOSOPHY

Swami Vivekananda took *Hinduism* to its Vedic roots. He was born on 12th January, 1863. He said : "Courage is what the *Upanisads* speak to me from every page. This is the one great thing to remember, it has been the one great lesson I have been taught in my life. Be courageous O man, be not weak".

Swami Vivekananda said, "Everything that we have had as a race has weakened us". It seems as if during that period the national life had only one end in view, viz., how to make us weaker and weaker, till we have become real earthworms crawling at the feet of every one who dares to display his sword and put his foot on us.

What I want is muscles of iron and nerves of steel, inside which dwells a mind of the same material as that of which the thunderbolt is made, worship strength and manhood.

All power is within you; you can do anything and everything. Believe in that; do not think that you are weak. You can do anything and everything you like, without even the guidance of anyone. All power is there. Stand up and express the divinity within you.

Your people require heroes; be heroes. Stand firm like a rock. Truth always triumphs. What masses want is a new electric fire to stir up a fresh vigour in the national veins. Be brave, man dies but once. My disciples must not be cowards. I hate cowardice. Keep up the deepest mental poise; take not even the slightest notice of what puerile creatures may be saying against you. Indifference! Indifference! Indifference! All great undertakings are achieved through mighty obstacles. Put forth your manly effort.

What makes you weep, my friend? In you is all the power, summon up your all powerful nature, oh, mighty one! and this whole universe will lie at your feet. It is those foolish people who identify themselves with their bodies that piteously cry, weak, weak, we are weak, what the nation wants is action and scientific genius. We want great spirits, tremendous energy and boundless enthusiasm. It is the man of action, the lion-heart that the goddess of wealth resorts to. No need of looking behind. Forward!

We want infinite energy, infinite zeal; infinite courage, and infinite patience; then only will great things be achieved.

Veda recognizes no sin, it only recognizes error; and the greatest error, says the Veda, is to say that you are weak, that you are a sinner, a miserable creature and that you have no power and you cannot do this or that.

Strength is life, weakness is death; strength is felicity, life is eternal, immortal! Weakness is constant strain and misery. Weakness is death. Be positive, strong, helpful thoughts should enter into your brains from the very childhood.

Weakness is the one cause of suffering. We become miserable, because we are weak. We lie, steal, kill and commit other crimes, because we are weak. We suffer, because we are weak. We die, because we are weak. Where there is nothing to weaken us, there is no death, no sorrow.

Strength is the one thing needful. Strength is the medicine for the world's disease. Strength is the medicine which the weak must have when tyrannized by the strong. Strength is the medicine which the ignorant must have when oppressed by the learned. And it is the medicine that sinners must have when tyrannized by other sinners.

Stand up, be bold, be strong. Take the whole responsibility on your own shoulders, and know that you are the creator of your own destiny. All the strength and succour you want is within yourselves. Therefore make your own future.

Thinking all the time that we are diseased, will not cure us; medicine is necessary. Being reminded of weakness does not help much. Give strength; and strength does not come by thinking of weakness all the time. The remedy for weakness is not brooding over weakness, but thinking of strength.

Either in this world or in the world of religion, it is true that fear is the sure cause of degradation and sin. It is fear that brings misery, fear that brings death, fear that breeds evil. And what causes fear? Ignorance of our own nature. Each of us is heir-apparent to the Emperor of Emperors, the *Ishwara*.

Know that all sins and all evils can be summed up in that one word-weakness. It is weakness that is the motive power in all evil-doing. It is weakness that is the source of all selfishness. It is weakness that makes men injure others. It is weakness that makes them manifest what they are not in reality.

What our masses now want are muscles of iron and nerves of steel; gigantic wills which nothing can resist, which can penetrate into the mysteries and secrets of the universe and will accomplish their purpose in any fashion even if it means going to the bottom of the ocean and meeting death face to face.

We have wept long enough; no more weeping, but stand on your feet and be a man. It is a man-making religion that we want. It is man-making theories that we want. It is man-making education all round that we want. And here is the test of truth-anything that makes you weak physically, intellectually and spiritually, reject; there is no life in it, it cannot be true. Truth is strengthening. Truth is purity, Truth is all knowledge. Truth must be strengthening, must be lightening, must be invigorating.

We speak of many things parrot-like, but never do them; speaking and not doing has become a habit with us. What is the cause of that ? Physical weakness. This sort of weak brain is not able to do anything. We must strengthen it. First of all our young men must be strong. Religion will come afterwards. You will understand the mighty genius and the mighty strength of Krishna only when strong blood flows in you. You will understand the Upanisads better and the glory of the *Atman* when your body stands firm upon your feet and you feel yourselves as a man.

Be moral, be brave, be whole-heartedly a strictly moral man, brave unto desperation. Cowards commit sin, brave men never. Try to love anybody and everybody.

Get up, and set your shoulder to the wheel, for how long is this life? As you have come into this world, leave some mark behind. Otherwise where is the difference between you and the trees and stones? They too come into existence, decay and die.

Be bold ! My children should be brave, above all. Not the least compromise on any account. Preach the highest truths. Do not fear losing your respect

or causing unhappy friction. Rest assured that if you serve truth in spite of temptations to forsake it, you will attain a heavenly strength, in the face of which men will quail to speak before you things which you do not believe to be true. People would be believing in whatever you say to them, if you can strictly serve truth for fourteen years continually, without swerving from it.

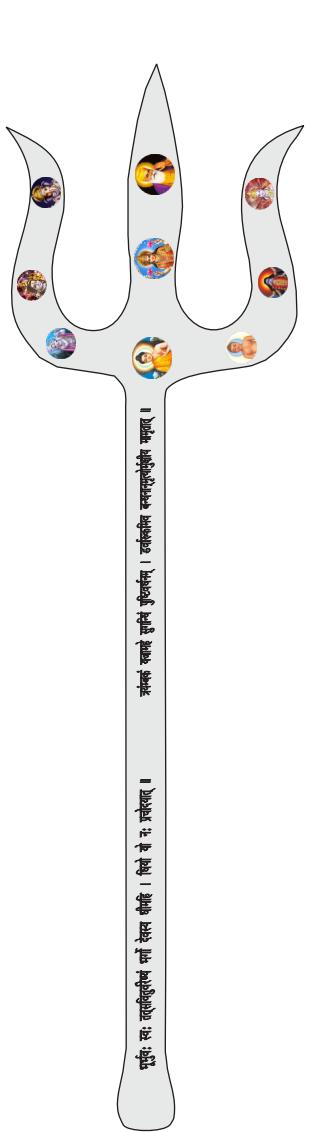
MEANING OF SANSKRIT NAMES / WORDS

Avtarvad (Incarnation) — Hindus believe in reincarnation i.e. a person takes rebirth with the qualities of previous birth. The primary three prophets of Hinduism were Bramha, Bishnu and Maheswara. Maha Lakshmi was the wife of Bishnu, Maheswara's wife was Bhagavati and sons were Kartikeyan and Sri Ganesh. Time and again great humans were bestowed on Hindu society as prophets and most of them are being treated as incarnations (*Avta*) of any one of the earliest prophets or their spouses. For example Lord Rama, Lord Krishna, Lord Venkateswara, Lord Balaji are considered incarnations of Bishnu. Lord Shiva, Lord Nataraja, Lord Subramanium are considered incarnations of Maheswara. Durga, Kali are incarnations of Bhagavati.

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|------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Asura</i> | — | The person who does not care for society's good, is selfish and fiendish in nature. |
| <i>Brahma</i> | — | One of the various names of <i>Ishwara</i> . |
| <i>Bramha</i> | — | Is the name of one of the first three propounders of <i>Sanatana Dharma</i> (Hindu religion). He lived in central India. |
| <i>Bishnu</i> | — | He is one of the three earliest propounders of <i>Sanatana Dharma</i> . He hailed from south of India. He is also known as Narayana or Lord Venkateswara. |
| <i>Bramhacharya</i> | — | The practice of celibacy, control of the urges of sensual organ, mainly adopted to achieve full concentration of mind for some noble cause. |
| <i>Bhajan</i> | — | Melodious tunes sung in praise of <i>Ishwara</i> . |
| <i>Bramhin/Brahmin</i> | — | The persons who earn a living as an academician. In old days Bramhins were the main source of knowledge dissipation about Veda and other scriptures. |

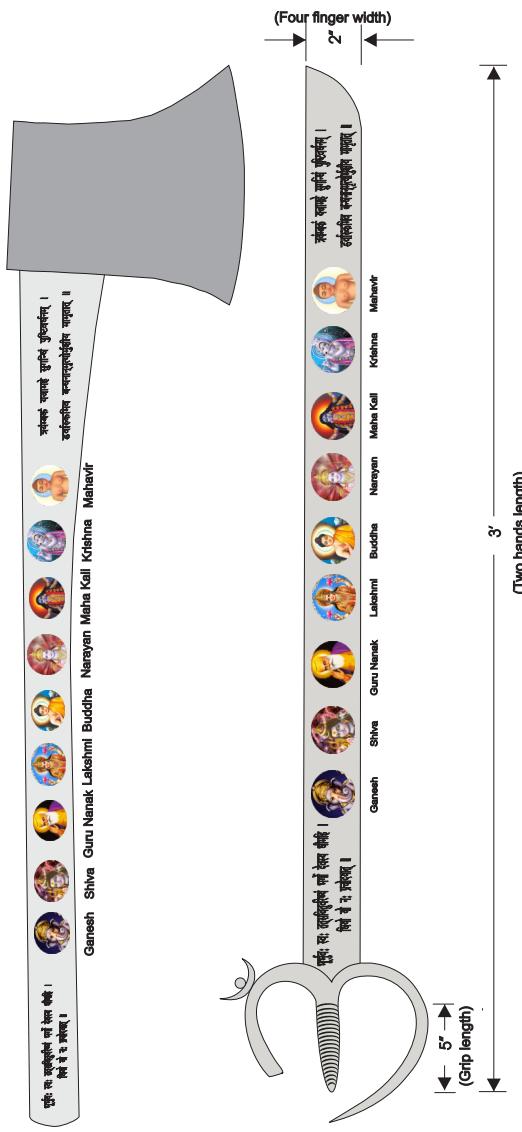
<i>Devata</i>	—	<i>Devata's</i> are messiahs/prophets who act as heroes, guides, saviours etc. and are respected by the people. As they were human beings they had human limitations. All of them were influenced by existing social equations and time period of their life. Thus many of their actions may raise questions in our modern mind. They however, deserve our salutations for their positive contributions in the progress of the civilization fruit of which we are enjoying daily.
<i>Dharma</i>	—	Ethical values through which a person should conduct his way of living.
<i>Dalit</i>	—	The person who was deprived of the privilege of acquiring any special skill and was forced to earn a living by working as an unskilled labour.
<i>Gita</i>	—	The sermons given by Lord Krishna for pious person to follow in daily life.
<i>Khatriyas/Kshatriyas</i>	—	The person, with knowledge of martial art, who earns a living working for the security of the nation or organization etc.
<i>Maheswara</i>	—	One of the earliest three propounders of <i>Sanatana Dharma</i> (Hinduism). He hailed from Kashmir i.e. north of India. He has many other names such as Shiva, Rudra, Nataraja, Lord Subramanium etc.
<i>Muni</i>	—	A high level saint who can realize the concept of the <i>Rishi</i> in its entirety and explain it in easy language for the benefit of the common man.
<i>Rishi</i>	—	A super high level saint /prophet who is inspired by <i>Ishwara</i> to visualize a new concept hitherto unknown to humanity.
<i>Rakhash/Rakshasa</i>	—	Means fiendish people (Demons).
<i>Sanatana Dharma</i>	—	The earliest religion of the human civilization. Later on it got a popular name Hinduism.

- Sudra* — The person who is a skilled artisan and use physical labour for earning a living.
- Vishnu* — One of the various names of *Ishwara*. The word Vishnu originated from the sanskrit root word *VI/S* meaning to pervade. Vishnu is all-pervading.
- Veda* — Oldest scriptures of *Sanatana Dharma* (Hinduism). It gives guidance for conducting a purposeful life.
- Vaisya* — The person who is an entrepreneur and earns a living through business.



Mahamrityunjay Trisul

This sword or axe or Trisul containing replica of Ishwar's angels becomes "Mahamrityunjoy", i.e., a guarantee against accidental disaster. Any one who keeps any one of these items at home and master the art of using these sword or axe or Trisul will be blessed by Ishwar to be healthy, wealthy, successful & very powerful.



Mahamrityunjay Axe



Badrinath

Badrinath Dham existing since the time of Veda is the oldest Hindu shrine (Altitude 3133 M)



Kedarnath

Kedarnath Dham existing since the time of Mahabharat is the holiest Hindu shrine (Altitude 3584 M)



**Indian Space Research Organisation
Ministry of Science & Technology, India.**



**Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
Ministry of Human Resource Development, India.**

The Holy Book of Hindu religion has dealt with Veda, Gita, Manusanghita, Smriti Shastras etc, in capsule form. For a Hindu family person, this much knowledge about Hinduism is minimum requirement & is almost adequate.

**Pandit Pradip Ramnath
Priest of Badrinath Dham**

I have liked The Holy Book of Hindu Religion. I think that all Hindus should read this book.

**Pandit Mahendar Sukla
Priest of Kedarnath Dham**

Every chapter of The Holy Book of Hindu Religion bears the stamp of a scientific mind and eternal human values. I recommend to all the young people to go through the chapters like Idol Worship, Caste System & Ten Incarnations of Vishnu etc. This book covers almost 90% of the knowledge required for an

**Dr. Samiran Das
Space Scientist, ISRO, INDIA**

Throughout my life I served science and neither had time nor had any interest to read scriptures. Recently I studied The Holy Book of Hindu Religion. It was a turning point. Had I read this book during my student days, I would have surely

**Emeritus Prof. Dr. B.B.Ghosh
I.I.T. Kharagpur**

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