

# The Third Principle

## THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH

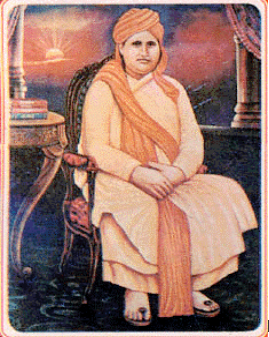


वेद सब विद्याओं की पुस्तक है ।

वेद का पढ़ना पढ़ाना और सुनना सुनाना सब आर्यों का परम धर्म है ।

Vedas are the scriptures of all true knowledge.

It is the paramount duty of every Arya  
to read, teach, hear and recite them.



# Veda

## Transmission of knowledge from God to man



- The supremacy of man among all terrestrial beings takes its rise from his capacity of acquiring systematic and progressive knowledge.
- The ultimate source of that knowledge is All knowing God, as the first principle affirms.
- Third principle is describing the agency of transmission of knowledge from God to man, and it is the primeval repository of revealed knowledge, the four Vedas.



# Veda

## The scripture of truth



- Science, as knowledge systematized, has existed among men during all the age of their earthly life.
- The amount of true, i.e., scientific knowledge possessed by man in different ages in different environment has surely varied, but the fact that ‘in all different period of time of human history he knew science’ cannot be denied.



# Veda

## The oldest text of humanity



**Vedas are the first source of wisdom known to humankind.**

No one has been able to reasonably date them. All we know is that whatever period we look back in documented past, there is no evidence that Vedas were not existing.

The Vedas are not only the oldest record of humanity but are a record co-eval with the earliest appearance of man on earth.



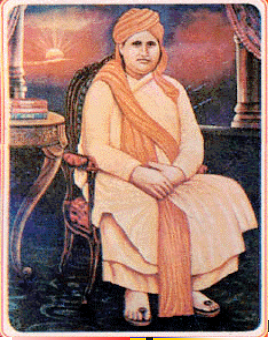
# Veda

## Revelation of knowledge



The Vedas are the eternal truths revealed to the great Ṛṣi (seers).

- **Ṛṣi means a seer** (realizer of Mantra (thought)). The thought was not his own. The Rishis realized the truths .
- They were the seers of thought which existed already. They were only discoverers of the thought. They are not the inventors of the Veda. They were only mediums to transmit to people the intuitional experiences which they received.



# Veda

## The root of Dharma



The Vedas – the very root of Dharma, rather the first source of knowledge on earth – are meant for guiding the actions of human being in order to lead a blissful life.

# वेदोऽखिलो धर्ममूलम्

The Veda is the source of all Dharma [morality and good conduct].

*Manu Smriti 2.6.*

धर्मजिज्ञासमानानां प्रमाणं परमं श्रुतिः

Vedas are the only source for them who want to know about Dharma.

*Manu Smriti 2.3*

अग्निर्मूर्धा चक्षुषी चन्द्रसूर्यो दिशः श्रोत्रे वाग् विवृताश्च वेदाः ।

Fire is the head of Him (God) and His eyes are the Sun and the Moon, the quarters His organs of hearing and the Revealed Vedas are His voice.

*Mundak Upanishads 2.4*

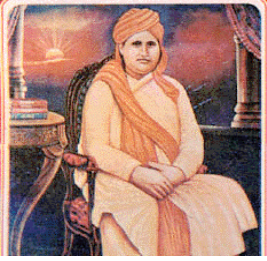
अनादिनिधना नित्या वागुत्सृष्टा स्वयम्भुवा ।

आदौ वेदमयी दिव्या श्यतः सर्वाः प्रवृत्तयः ॥

In the beginning of the world, self-existent God revealed the Vedas, which are eternal and divine. They are the source or guides of all human activities. *Mahabharat.12.232.24*

तद् वचनादाम्नायस्य प्रामाण्यम् | *Vaisheshika Philosophy. 5.5.1*



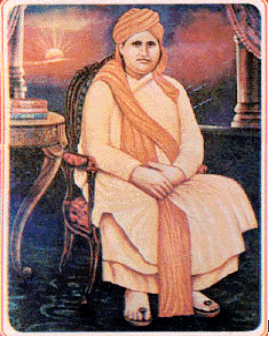


# Veda



- The Veda is divided into four books known as '**Sam̐hitā**' (collections of Mantras ).
- **Mantra means thoughts.** Mantras are of different kinds.
- The first is the ***R̥k*** type which are composed in meters .
- These Mantras, when set to the musical scale are called ***Sāma*** .
- Those, which does not fall under any of the above two are known as ***Yajus*** Mantras.





# Veda

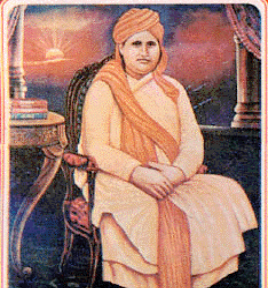


The **R̥g Veda** contains 1,017 hymns, or 10,522 verses, arranged in ten books or mandalas.

The **Yajur Veda** contains 1975 verses in 40 chapters.

The **Sāma Veda** “Veda of Melodies,” It is highly poetic in form. it contains 1549 verses.

The **Atharva Veda** contains 5977 verses in 20 chapters.



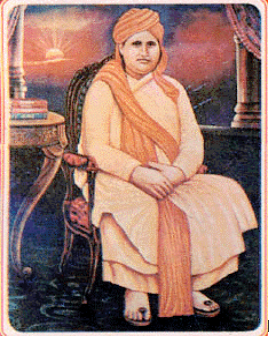
# The devices adopted to preserve purity of the Vedas



Vedas have been meticulously preserved in such a systematic manner that the original Vedas are still available to us in same pristine form. Not just words but even pronunciation and intonations.

The devices adopted by the R̥ṣis to safeguard the letter of what they regarded as the word of God, against alteration, interpolation or omission; “Extraordinary precautions soon began to be taken to guard the canonical text thus fixed against the possibility of any change or loss. The result has been its preservation with a faithfulness unique in literary history.”

**( Professor A. A. Macdonell, *A History of Sanskrit Literature*, p. 50).**



# The devices adopted to preserve purity of the Vedas



11 ways of chanting the mantras to protect the Vedas:

1. Saṃhitā pātha
2. Pada pātha
3. Krama pātha
4. Jatā pātha
5. Mālā pātha
6. Śikhā pātha
7. Rekhā pātha
8. Dhvaja pātha
9. Ratha pātha
10. Danda pātha
11. Ghana pātha

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By Dr. Suryanarayan Nanda  
for Arya Samaj Greater Houston

# The devices adopted to preserve purity of the Vedas

**Samhitā Pātha:** ओषधयः संवदन्ते सोमेन सह राज्ञा ॥

**2. Pada Pātha:** ओषधयः सं । वदन्ते । सोमेन । सह राज्ञा ॥

**3.Krama Pātha:**

ओषधयः सं । सं वदन्ते । वदन्ते सोमेन । सोमेन सह । सह राज्ञा । राज्ञेति राज्ञा ॥

**4.Jatā Pātha :**

ओषधयः सं । समोषधयः । ओषधयस् सम् । सं वदन्ते । वदन्ते सं । सं वदन्ते । वदन्ते सोमेन ।  
सोमेन वदन्ते । वदन्ते सोमेन । सोमेन सह । सह सोमेन । सोमेन सह । सह राज्ञा । राज्ञा सह ।  
सह राज्ञा । राज्ञेति राज्ञा ।

**11. Ghana Pātha :**

ओषधयः सं, समोषधयः, ओषधयस् सं वदन्ते, वदन्ते समोषधयः, ओषधयस् सं वदन्ते । सं वदन्ते,  
वदन्ते सं, संवदन्ते सोमेन, सोमेन वदन्ते सं, सं वदन्ते सोमेन ।  
वदन्ते सोमेन, सोमेन वदन्ते, वदन्ते सोमेन सह, सह सोमेन वदन्ते, वदन्ते सोमेन सह । सोमेन  
सह, सह सोमेन, सोमेन सह राज्ञा , राज्ञा सह सोमेन, सोमेन सह राज्ञा । सह राज्ञा, राज्ञा सह,  
सह राज्ञेति राज्ञा, राज्ञा सहेति सह, सह राज्ञेति राज्ञा ।



# Veda

## The scripture of truth



- The word **Veda** means **knowledge**, is derived from the root **vid**- "to know, to be, to obtain, to consider".
- When it is applied to scripture, it signifies a **book of knowledge**.
- Knowledge is eternal. The books may be destroyed, but the knowledge cannot be destroyed.
- In that sense, the Vedas are eternal, and an embodiment of divine knowledge.

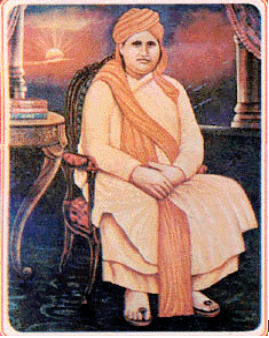


# Veda

## The storehouse of wisdom



- Vedas are the storehouse of wisdom and the repository of all Sciences.
- They contain not just spiritual wisdom, but sufficient insights in practical life as well – science, health, society, family, economics, mathematics, education and so on—in short all that man feels the impulse to know.
- Vedas are the only spiritual texts that are devoid of miracles, history or a founder we must blindly surrender to.

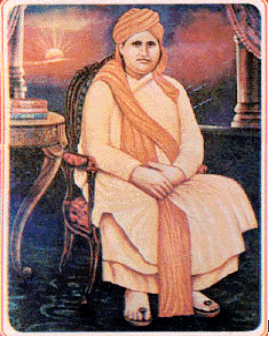


# Veda

## The storehouse of wisdom

**Swami Dayanand** in his ***R̥g Vedādi Bhāṣya Bhumikā*** has given an outline of the teachings of the Vedas, indicating the incorporation in this primeval scripture of subjects as widely varied as Theology, Sociology, Ethics, Metaphysics, Architecture, Mathematics, Astronomy, etc. etc.

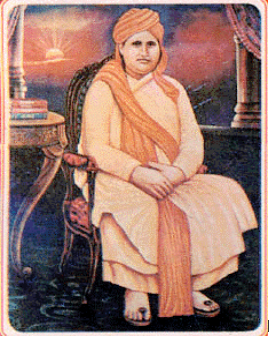




# Why should one learn Vedas

**Vedas are truly universal :** They belong to an era when there was no Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jew, Communist etc..

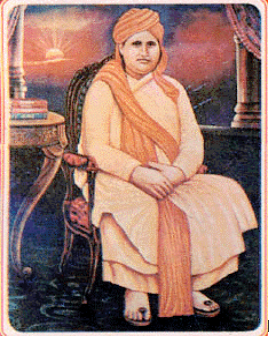
Vedas alone can be foundations of a truly universal religion that unite all human beings and destroy divisions on basis of later-era man-made religions.



# Why should one learn Vedas

**God of Vedas does not sit on a chair on top of the sky or 4th or 7th sky:** God of Vedas is present everywhere, within and outside us, unchangeable, undying, unborn, impersonal and a consistent law-keeper.

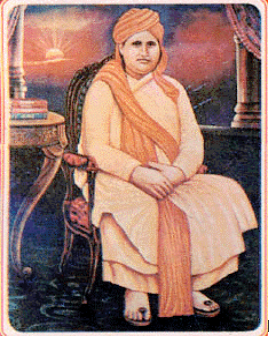
**God of Vedas does not twist its laws or show miracles** or get angry or sleep or keep an army or court of angels and prophets or grant special favors to anyone.



## Why should one learn Vedas

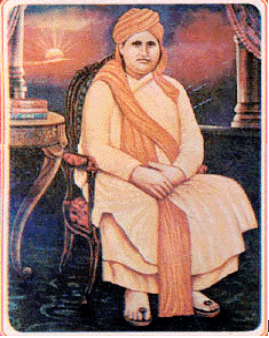
**Vedas have no place for superstitions :** Vedas encourage scientific thinking. They urge us to reject whatever is based merely on tall claims and does not stand the test of reason.

Vedas guide that instead of blind faith on anything, one should attempt to discover the wisdom within through efforts, contemplation, good deeds and knowledge-seeking.



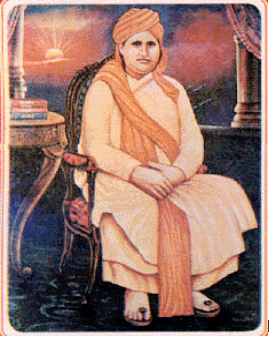
# Why should one learn Vedas

**Vedas do not ask us to believe in Heaven, Hell, Adam, Eve, Angels, Judgment Day, Prophets, Ghosts or Satan:**



# Why should one learn Vedas

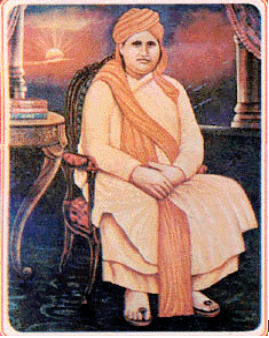
**Heaven and Hell** lie in this world itself. When we benefit from good deeds, it is Heaven. When we face troubles due to bad deeds, it is Hell. They do not refer to any place in world atlas.



# Why should one learn Vedas

According to Vedas **Judgment Day** refers to every moment in life is a movement of judgment, when we decide between doing good deeds and bad deeds. This alone shapes our destiny in next moment.

**Judgment Day** does not refer to any fictitious event in calendar of God when people will rise from graves and line up in a queue to be allotted some Heaven or Hell. God does not need to do such shows and employ some prophets as lawyers.



# Why should one learn Vedas

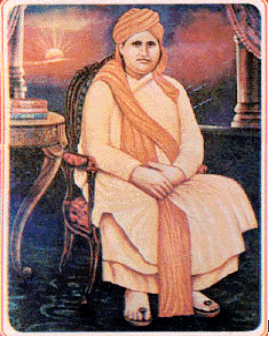
**Prophet** refers to our own soul. When we resolve to do good things alone, we make it certain that we would have success in life. Thus we can make prophecy of our bright future and hence we become Prophets.

**There is a Prophet in each of us. And there is no Prophet outside us.**

**Satan** is the villain in each of us. Let us kill the urge to conduct vices and hence win over Satan.

**Satan lies inside us, it does not come from outside.**





# Why should one learn Vedas

**Vedas do not demand blind-belief :** Vedas urge us not to believe in some person, book or concept just because a lot many people follow them.

All that Vedas demand is a sincerity to discover and embrace whatever one realizes as truth to best of his or her understanding.