

Essence of Satyarth Prakash

- Raj Bhalla, PhD

Satyarth Prakash literally means Light of Truth. This manuscript was written by Maharshi Dayanad Saraswati who is the founder of Arya Samaj. The main objective of writing this book was to declare as truth what is truth and to declare as untruth what is not truth. Its purpose was not to hurt the feeling of various religions but for the wise to judge themselves what is truth and follow that path.

It starts with the explanation of Om and other names of God.

"All the Vedas and the Shastras declare **AUM** as the primary and natural name of God. All others are His secondary names." MANDUK UPANISHAD 1:1.

"**AUM** is the Great God Who is omnipresent (like ether)." YAJUR VEDA 40:17.

"He alone, whose name is **AUM**, Who is Immortal, is worthy of our adoration and none other." CHHANDOGYA UPANISHAD

The Primary name of God is Om and all others are considered to be secondary names. These other names are based on his qualities. He is known as Brhama which means no one is bigger than Him. He is known as Vishnu which means Omnipresent. He is known as Shiv as He is benevolent.

Chapter 2 deals with the upbringing of children. That man alone can become a great scholar who has the advantage of three great teachers, mother, father and teacher or preceptor. Influence of mother on her child surpasses that of any one else. Blessed is the mother who never stops to give religious tone to the mind of her child from the time of birth till his knowledge is perfected. Both the boys and girls should be given good education by their parents.

"Parents who neglect the education of their children are truly their enemies." Here education means both of physical sciences and spiritual.

People who lack the knowledge of medical science, look upon the diseases as being caused by possession of evil spirits. They go to these Baba's or quacks to have them removed. These quacks just want their money. Thus these people bring more sufferings upon themselves and their family members. Similarly when people fall on bad times, they seek the services of astrologers which are also after their money. Nothing good comes out of these astrologers as well. If God wants to punish someone, then the alignment of stars is not going to matter.

In Chapter 3 Maharishi states that both girl and boys should perform Paranaayaam (control of breath). It is said in Yoga Shatra that, **"the practice of Pranaayaam burns off all impurities and uplifts the soul"**. Sandhyopaasana should be performed daily by concentrating the mind and reciting Gayatri Mantra and contemplate on its meaning. The second daily duty is to perform Agnihotra also known as Havan by reciting Vedic Mantras. Havan purifies the air and in this way Vedic mantras also get memorized.

The five daily duties are, (1) worship of God, (2) Havan, (3) service of parents, teachers and other learned persons (4) service to animals and the helpless poors (5) service to Atithi – people

learned of Vedas who come to visit you unexpectedly.

Chapter 7 deals with God and the Vedas. Vedas say that there is only one God. He is all pervading. He is omnipresent and omniscient and Omnipotent. He has no form as otherwise He will have finite powers and will be localized at one place. Therefore He will not know what is happening in other parts of the world. Then you will not call Him as Omnipresent. He alone creates the universe, sustains it and dissolves it. He is all pervading. He never takes birth. Then the question arises how could such evil persons like Ravana and Kansa be killed if He did not reincarnate. Being all pervading, He is present in their bodies as well and could have cut off their vitals any time if He so desired. Human soul is a free agent. Free to perform any actions in this world. God gives the reward later on based on those actions. There are three distinct entities in this world, God, soul and prakirti (nature). They have no cause and have been existing eternally. They are never born nor get destroyed.

“This earth with all its waters revolve around the sun” – Yajur Veda 3.6. Our Sages knew long time ago that it is the earth that revolves around the sun and not the other way around.

About the Author

Raj Bhalla obtained his Ph.D. in Atomic Physics from University Of North Texas. There after he taught at University of Idaho in Pocatello, Idaho for two years. Currently he is providing technical support in the field of Information Technology. He worshipped one God who does not take birth and has no shape. Few years ago he happened to read Satyarth Prakash and Rigned Bhoomica by Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati. Those were really eye openers for him. He started to learn Sanskrit and started to read Vedas after that. Currently he is serving the society as President of Arya Samaj of Suburban New York, in White Plains, New York.



यज्ञं यन्तं मनसा बृहन्तं अन्वारोहामि तपसा सयोनिः ।
उपहृता अग्ने जरसः परस्तात्तृतीये नाके सधमादं मदम ।।AV6.122.4

By setting an example of following a life devoted earn an honest living and fulfilling one's duties in performing his duties towards environments, society and family development of an appropriate temperament takes place. That ensures a peaceful heaven like happy atmosphere in family and off springs that ensures a comfortable life for the old elderly retired persons.

तप (सदैव कर्मठ बने रहने के स्वभाव से) और यज्ञ पञ्च महायज्ञ के पालन करने से उत्पन्न मानसिकता के विकास द्वारा जीवन का उच्च श्रेणी का बन जाता है. ऐसी व्यवस्था में, दुःख रहित पुत्र पौत्र परिवार और समाज के स्वर्ग तुल्य जिव्जन में मानव की तृतीय जीवन अवस्था (वानप्रस्थ और उपरान्त) हर्ष से स्वीकृत होती है.