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## Relevance of ‘Sanatana Dharma Course’ to the Present Day Students

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The Veda Samskruti Samiti (VSS) has taken up a great task of making us understand our ancient culture and traditions along with Sanatana dharma. The course has been designed to introduce different aspects of Sanatana dharma. We have to understand, it is Sanatana and by now everyone understands that our Vedas have been taught through generations by verbal method. Vedas have been seen by Rishis, visualised through their penance and so they are pure. Their relevance is more even today. As students, we understand that the subject is very vast and do not understand where and how to start getting into the realm of Sanatana Dharma.

If the subject is vast and cannot be taught in few hours, then what is the relevance of our studying Sanatana dharma and attending the classes early in the morning?

First of all, let all of us (students) understand that it is the power of Sanatana Dharma that has pulled us into the class of art of living. Otherwise we would have been roaming in the darkness thinking it is great illumination. We were enjoying the wealth that we have earned and the comforts that we have purchased. Then trying to be happy and feel, that is the objective of life and we were successful. Even today many people feel and are living in such thought, but for few lucky people like us who are able to see the real light.

Let me elaborate. In spite of our comfort zone of living, we have lot of problems of health and other sudden happenings. We have serious health issues and live on medicines as staple food. Not realising that these medicines are further taking us into more ill health. That is, more darkness in the garb of illumination. When we get into problems, we turn to God and curse him for giving us the problems and then ask him to solve. Here is the point. All along it was our hard work which gave success and we feel it is because of us. No God. When we get into problems, we suddenly realise God.

Let us understand the reason. We, at least most of us, believe in birth and rebirth philosophy. Also, at any given moment there are so many souls taking birth, some in rich family, some in ordinary family and some in poor family. Who decides this division? It is our own KARMA. Accordingly, the divisions of the souls happen. God has given same opportunities to all at the start. A person uses the opportunities to help others and trying to attain higher knowledge, lead a simple but healthy life takes birth in a noble family. Here we should understand Noble does not mean wealth, it is noble by knowledge of God and his existence. When a person is given all the comforts and yet he leads a simple life, he has a balance of mind and feels that all these are temporary and realising God and the happiness is permanent, such a person will take birth in

next Janma is a pious family and acquires supreme knowledge of God and goes close to Moksha. All others who have taken birth in other divisions struggle in all ways to reach this stage by going through the cycle of birth and rebirth. Depending on the Karma performed in this birth, the fate of next birth is written by you only not Brahma. We have to understand that we may take birth as animals or any one of the 84 lakhs *jeevas* (living organisms) created by God.

Having understood the above, our endeavour is to do good work and know how to go closer to the supreme knowledge and ultimately get *Moksha*. The great comforts of this life given by God, have to be used properly in doing good works and be helpful to others besides your family. Thus, you go closer and closer towards Moksha.

Let us get back to the relevance of the course. By now we realise that the opportunities that we have are given by God to serve the mankind, in whichever way you can. If we misuse the power and knowledge, be sure of the next *janma* (life), which you can see in front of you seeking help and living in different miseries. It is not always money that you can give and help. It can be education, advice, etc., that is, you can help by words, sincerely. Soothing words help a man in distress and gives great hope to live.

In this pursuit of seeking good knowledge of the supreme God, whom we have forgotten or do not know how to acquire the knowledge, we are fortunate to have joined this course on Sanatana Dharma. We are introduced to different aspects of our great traditions and culture and Vedas. Even though only a fraction of such great knowledge is available to be taught, that itself is vast for us.

Imagine the wealth of knowledge in Sanatana Dharma, which is incomparable. Realise the great fortune have taken birth in this culture of Sanatana dharma.

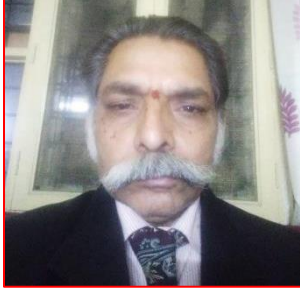
Since the knowledge is vast and all the great scholars who have taught us, have studied the same for years, we should not try and think that by attending this short duration course, we can get the power and siddhi, in this life. In the cycle of birth and rebirth, we can only think of a better life in next birth to attain better knowledge and virtues.

As we are in *Kaliyuga* and that too Prathama paada and experiencing so much of polluted atmosphere, inside and outside, we can imagine the life in the next three paadas of *Kaliyuga*. I hope people have imagined the horrible life ahead, at the same time see high technology use. If we do good deeds in this remaining part of the life, at least, we may have the mercy of God for a better life in next birth.

To conclude, the relevance of the course on Sanatana Dharma is a great boon to all of us to know more about our rich traditions and culture to cultivate good virtues for a better life. It is the rich culture which will give good life and not the rich medicines. Let us come out of the illusion of illumination while living in darkness and see the real light of the supreme God. Let us not get confused with the distractions against our culture and traditions. Believe in Dharma. Let us not start learning with doubts in mind but with belief in Sanatana dharma. Also, understand that we are lucky that such great teaching is directly coming into our house and we need not go out. Have no excuses in learning. Sincere discipline and belief in Sanatana dharma is required. Knowledge automatically leads us to

good path. Pranams to all the great scholars, who are teaching us the rich tradition of Sanatana Dharma. May God bless you!

### About Author



**Sri Challa Chitti Babu** is an Engineer by profession and retired from the Engineers India Limited as a General Manager. Presently he is active and keen in participating in several social activities. He is associated with the Veda Samskruti Samithi (VSS), Hyderabad, and also working as an Editor for the vEda vaaNee e-journal.





# Veda Samskruti Samiti

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Veda Samskruti is an inherent intellectual property of Bhaarata dEsham. It is the basic duty and right of every citizen in Bhaarata dEsham to protect this Intellectual property. Indian Constitution and Law provides provision for protection and preservation of its culture, its monuments, architecture etc.

The Chaturvedas said to have 1131 shaakhaas right up to the time of Aadi Shankaraachaarya and thereafter during last more than ten centuries, many shaakhaas are out of practice due to various reasons and presently only seven shaakaas are in the practice of Guru shiShya parampara.

There is a need to continuously preserve these available shaakhaas which may likely to disappear in future due to various external forces acting in the country vigorously with the power of money and global politics. It is time for the intellectuals of Bharata dEsham to wake-up and work collectively to protect and preserve Veda Samskruti of Bharata dEsham, by empowering the Youth of Bharat dEsham, the future care takers of this great Indian Heritage , with suitable education of our correct history and culture.

The above background lead to formation of this Veda Samskruti Samiti which is registered under Societies acts of Government of Telangana, with Regd. No. 961/2016 by Sri A.H. Prabhakara Rao, who is the Founder and President of the Samiti.

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