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South Africans celebrate National Women's Day on 9 August. We salute the women who defied the imposition of passes and fought for rights and dignity by participating in the famous Pass March to the Union Buildings. Today, 67 years later we face a pandemic on gender-based violence, rising unemployment and deepening inequalities. Equity, even-handedness, and impartiality with respect to gender, jobs and inclusion must be practiced.

Developing equal power relations in society is a concept rooted in the Vedas. The acquisition of wealth by a few develops unequal power relations and creates inequalities in society. Money plays an important part to make life free of misery. Social grants, free basic services by the state are commitments to share wealth.

If those who have the capacity can maximise their ability to acquire wealth with the understanding that they are merely custodians of such wealth and must share it with others, the redistribution of wealth will be in place. If this becomes the guiding principle in the life of the capitalists then they would use their expertise and know-how in earning maximum profits with the thought of equitably sharing with their staff, the state, (revenue services) and deserving charitable organisations.

In this issue we cover views on wealth. Is wealth only money and possessions? Is the pursuit of wealth only about the accumulation of assets for individuals and families? Or is it more? What do the Vedic mantras we chant say about wealth?

We thank Pt Abhimun Dudhrajh for the feature article "Wealth is Power". The second feature article is a contribution from Karuna Mohan entitled "Wealth is a Means, Not the End". Under Views from our Priests, Pt Bhagirathi Basdhw shares his views on "Spiritual Wealth"

Veda Jyoti Editorial Committee:

Arthi Shanand, Karuna Mohan, Kirun Satgoor, Ressa Rambaros, Shobana Singh, Sudhira Sham



ओम् इन्द्र श्रेष्ठानि द्रविणानि धेहि चित्तिं दक्षस्य
सुभगत्वमस्मे

Om indra śreṣṭhāni draviṇāni dhehi cittiṃ dakṣasya
subhagatvamasme Rig Veda 2.21. 6

Meaning: Wealth and riches earned by honest means alone bring one prosperity and happiness.

To produce an income and to own wealth are two different things. A worker who toils on a farm, in a factory or an office earns an income mostly by honest effort but does not have ownership of wealth. Such wealth derived from productive activity remains in the hands of the owners of the means of production.

Every person is endowed with their own talent. Some are gifted far above the average, whilst others may possess the ability to plan, organise and to take on leadership and yet others are diligent and meticulous. There are also people who have the expertise in business and in other professions such as medicine, law, information and communication technologies, marketing, advertising, and counselling.

Everyone should be given the opportunity to develop his or her skill in the interest of the greater good. Even those involved in manufacturing, retail and wholesale, finance, commerce, and industry and who produce wealth should

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Wealth is a Means, Not the End

be given the greatest encouragement to work to the fullest for the progress and prosperity of the country.

To accumulate wealth and to extravagantly spend it on oneself for the sake of display, pleasure and jollification serves to boost one's pride and ego. Such wealth brings misery and unhappiness in society.

When one secures wealth through dishonest means to enhance one's own status and glory such a person forgets what honesty and righteousness is. The wealth brought home in this manner is called sinful money which will never secure peace and happiness.

For one who has derived wealth through dishonesty, the Bible says: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God".

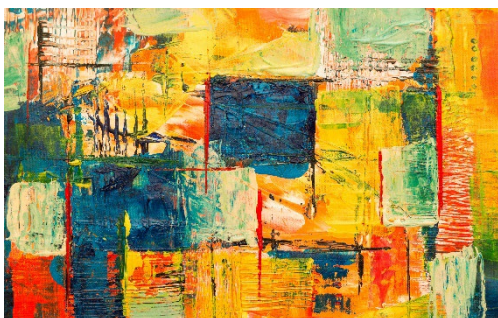
The wealth of the rich developed countries in the world was derived from ill-gotten gains - through exploitation, colonisation, conversion of indigenous people to Christianity, and wars. Whether it was tea from China, spices from the India, gold and minerals from Africa and South America these were products taken away to make western world rich. They even practiced slave trade.

Most people in the modern world who acquire houses are in debt. The ownership of the wealth or asset is in the hands of banks until housing loans are repaid. One of the basic securities in the foundation of wealth is land. During the colonisation period this was annexed by the colonisers, thereby depriving the people of developing countries means to produce wealth, ensure food security, and live decent lives.

Prosperity in the modern world has led to a race in the accumulation of wealth. This is true of individuals and countries.

Wealth and acquired possessions are inevitably linked to power. The pursuit of happiness has been with humanity for eons. This mantra says that happiness can be achieved if one earns wealth and riches through honest means.

Author: Karuna Mohan



Society flourishes when those who have skills and talents produce the maximum wealth for the benefit all. Leaders, whether in business, government and in civil society, need to work for the common good. Conflict arises when the principle of caring and sharing is misplaced, underpinned by greed and selfishness.

Some accumulate wealth just for themselves or for their group interest or their nation's interest. They use wealth to fulfil their own selfish desires. They put on a false appearance to glorify their own status and position. Others face starvation and hunger, while leaders loot the coffers of the state to secure their own enjoyment. This gives cause for dissatisfaction and resentment in the community. Thus social conflict comes about and brings about a trust deficit between rulers and citizens.

The producers of wealth must try to produce the greatest amount of wealth, but they must realise that it is not meant only for them to enjoy. They should only take what is required for their needs. The balance should be available for the benefit of the country.

Many companies have a Corporate Social Responsibility programme in place for this purpose. All countries have a tax programme in place. Notwithstanding this, income inequality has increased in most developed countries and in some middle-income countries, including China and India, since 1990. Countries where inequality has grown are home to more than two thirds (71 per cent) of the world population. (United Nations, 2020)

Powerful economic, social, and environmental forces are affecting inequality in the world exerting mounting pressure on income inequality, mainly through their effect on labour markets. The Gini coefficient, which measures income inequality, has declined in most countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and in several African and Asian countries over the last two decades (United Nations, 2020). The average income of people living in Northern America is 16 times higher than that of people in sub-Saharan Africa, for example. The poor are getting poorer.

Despite progress in some countries, income and wealth are increasingly concentrated at the top. The share of income going to the richest 1 per cent of the global population increased in 46 out of 57 countries and areas from 1990 to 2015. Meanwhile, the bottom 40 per cent in the world earned less than 25 per cent of income in all 92 countries. (United Nations, 2019a).

While economic inequality has grown within many countries, inequality among countries is declining in relative terms. Strong economic growth in China and other emerging economies in Asia has been the main driver of this decline. However, this convergence is not evenly distributed, and the differences among some countries and regions are still considerable. (United Nations 2020). What does this mean for the adage *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* – the world is one family?



Today millions go hungry have no protection or shelter from cold, heat and rain, get no medical care and have no facilities for treatment, have no schools, colleges or even books. They do not have sufficient water or food to fill their stomachs. They live in the jaws of death. What is the answer to these problems?



We need dedicated men and women to plan and produce sufficient wealth so that we could fulfil the needs of all the people of the world. It will be only then that the world will become a better place to live in for all people.

All states have a revenue collection and redistribution programme. Taxes are collected from those who receive an income and utilised for the welfare and benefit of society. In South Africa the social grants have assisted to keep people out of deep poverty.

The method of taxation affects the whole nation. The manufacturers, big chain stores and other companies are taxed according to their profits. Malls exist and profit through a share of the profits made by stores.

Revenue received from tax is used to administer the affairs of the state. This involves the security of the country, and the safety of its citizens, the issuing of birth and death certificates, drivers' licences, education, removal of refuse, and all other matters of administration - all of which depend on money received through taxation.



Gold, diamonds and platinum and other mineral resources of mother earth have been extracted to make profits for big companies. In this process land has been degraded, workers have been exploited, and countries have been controlled. Products have been created for consumers to acquire. The prices for these commodities are set in the developed countries, while the minerals are found in the developing world. The vicious cycle of power and greed continues all in the name of creating and acquiring wealth. The rich think that all the money earned is theirs, that they invested and produced it and they are the masters.

It is this desire in some humans that causes downfall, brings grief, and destroys society. How could they claim to be the owner of this wealth? How could they be the master? Did they produce all this wealth by themselves? Certainly not.

Owners of mines and factories are only an instrument in the production of this wealth. Wealth is created through the hard work of the many people. Various factors in the manufacturing process produces wealth. In the extraction of raw material, preparation, and transporting to and from the factory and in the factory itself many people have given their service.

It is the combined effort and hard work of many persons that creates wealth. Then how could one or two people claim to be the sole master? The wealth belongs to all. While it is accumulated by the wealthy person, he or she is only the trustee. All concerned should have a say in its distribution as they are all shareholders and co-creators in the wealth creation process.

The Freedom Charter adopted in Kliptown, South Africa on 26 June 1955 had this to say:

“The People Shall Share in the Country’s Wealth!

The national wealth of our country, the heritage of South Africans, shall be restored to the people; The mineral wealth beneath the soil, the Banks and monopoly industry shall be transferred to the ownership of the people as a whole; All other industry and trade shall be controlled to assist the wellbeing of the people; All people shall have equal rights to trade where they choose, to manufacture and to enter all trades, crafts and professions.”

The wealth produced in any country belongs to everybody. But if it is accumulated at companies then how could it be distributed to others? Those who are directly involved in its production such as the managers, supervisors and workers are rewarded in the form of salaries and wages for their share of labour. But how could the surplus produced reach others? How can the distribution of surpluses benefit everyone?

Just as the food that enters the stomach is not kept by the stomach but through the aid of '*Samana Prana*' one of the five life forces, it is distributed to the various parts of the body according to their requirements, similarly it becomes the duty of the rich who have accumulated wealth to distribute it to the people according to their needs.

The Vedas say: (Rig 10-117-4) "He who gives food to the hungry, whether he be a learned monk, a beggar or a cripple, verily he eats pure food. Such a generous one will never find his cupboard empty. He would also make friends with his enemies." (Wealth: A Balanced Outlook)

This is the way all should live and perform duties without greed or selfishness and live in contentment. Those who have the wealth must make a sacrifice and avoid spending on unnecessary luxuries.

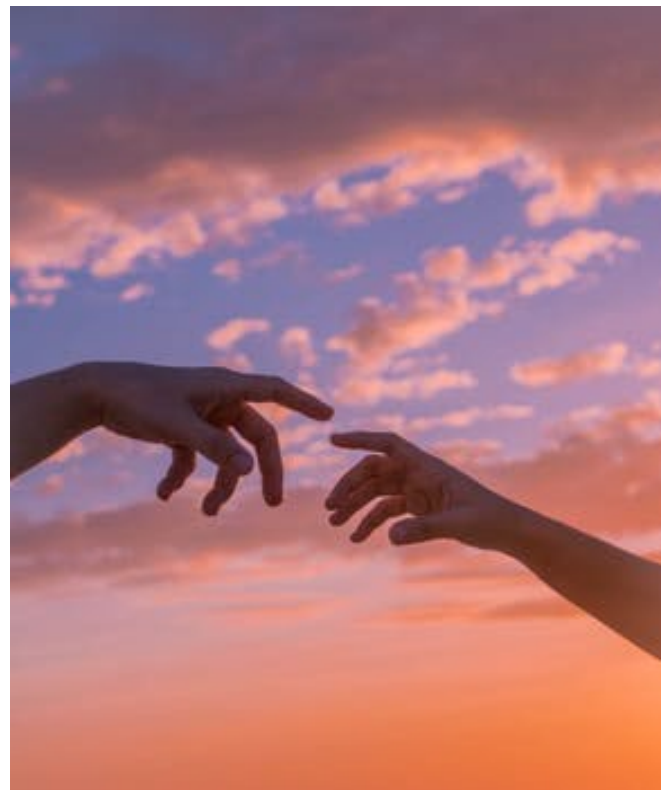
Wealth is a means to obtain comforts. Income is used for necessities. Wealth is not the end but only the means to obtain things. Instead of getting peace through it, we get

so much tied up with it that we find ourselves in greater difficulties because of our wrong approach.

The Vedas also say: (Yajur Veda 40-1) "Tena Tyaktena Bhunjithah."

All this wealth, all that we have for our comfort and wellbeing have been given to us by God. He is the Master of all wealth. We only use what we need for our comfort and wellbeing. To take more than our requirements for the sake of hoarding is the root of sin. Therefore it is essential to abandon this kind of desire from us.

Author: Karuna Mohan



Wealth is Power

Wealth is about more than money. Wealth measures the value of all the assets owned by a person, community, company, or country. Wealth is determined by taking the total market value of all physical and intangible assets and subtracting all debts. Essentially wealth is the accumulation of scarce resources.

It is true that wealth is power. Those who abuse it suffer. To achieve material success in any undertaking we need adequate wealth.

When our scriptures say, “We should give up wealth”, what do they mean? It does not mean we should not acquire wealth. On the contrary it only exhorts us not to become slaves of wealth.

In the field of charity and welfare those who are committed to serve unselfishly cannot be successful in their work if they do not have wealth. Families, societies and welfare organisations, the state, etc. also cannot function without wealth.

It should become our nature to give donations without any ulterior motives. Charity given with such good intention has been greatly praised in our scriptures. It has been said in the “Taittiriya Upanishad” (1-11-3) “*Shraddhaya Deyam, Shriya, Samvida Deyam, Bhiya Deyam, Hriya Deyam,*” give with devotion, give with respect, give with consideration, give out of fear, give out of shame.

To produce wealth and hoard it for oneself or to have false hopes that it is for future generations and then lock it away is a great sin. To avoid this, one should give generously and develop a philanthropic attitude.

When giving in charity never give begrudgingly, give lovingly and sincerely. Then the giver and the receiver are both happy. There should be dignity in giving and receiving so that the person who receives will be treated with respect and does not feel hurt. This is what is meant by “*Shriya Deyam*”- to be given with dignity.

In the Bhagavad Gita Shri Krishna says: (Ch, 17-20) *Dātavyam iti yad dānam diyate ‘nupakāriṇe deshe kāle cha pātre cha tad dānām sātṭvikam smṛtam.* That charity is noble and of the highest quality (*sātṭvik*) where the giver does not expect anything in return. He does not do it for his personal pride or gain. The donation goes for a good cause channelled through responsible, dedicated people of integrity.

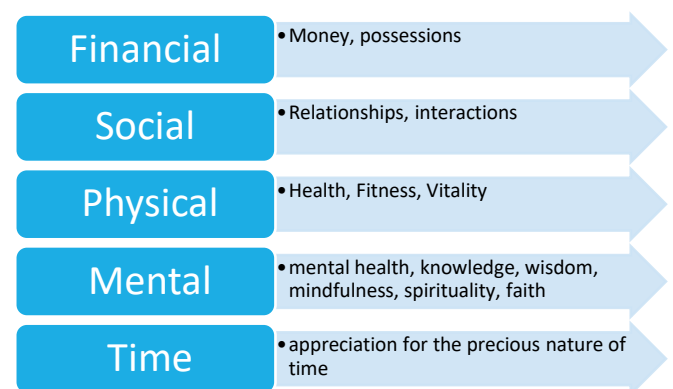
According to Vedic scripture it is the duty of the merchant class (*vaishya*) or business class to earn as much wealth as possible. The *vaishya* is one who takes the initiative in the production and distribution of wealth. Individual enterprises, commerce and industry, agriculture, mining, and manufacturing etc. all contribute to the creation of wealth. How will a nation be prosperous if the business as a group do not perform their duties? The country will get poorer and eventually be ruined. Wealth is not an evil thing; it is the means of progress and prosperity. Wealth is power! But it should not end there.

Perhaps the most important *mantra* is the one that spells out the businessman’s attitude towards wealth. The *mantra* says “*Om shata hasta samaahara sahasra hasta san kira*” Atharva Veda 3.24.5, meaning, O merchant, you earn with a hundred hands but give with a thousand hands. The underlying theme of Vedic culture is that of sharing and alleviating the plight of those less fortunate than us and we see it expressed in the performance of this rite as well. The above *mantra* is to sensitise the businessman of his obligation to share his wealth for the good of all.

On the other hand, the Rig Veda 10.117.6 “*Mogham annam vindate apracetāḥ satyam bravīmi vadha it sa tasya, nāryamaṇam puṣyati no sakhāyam kevalāgho bhavati kevalādi*” also emphasizes this ideal, viz. the rich who do not utilize their wealth for noble deeds or for the needs of their fellow beings, but fill their own pockets, are selfish and have earned the wages of sin.

The Five Types of Wealth

You have been told that money is the only type of wealth. This is a lie. Wealth is about more than money. There are essentially five types of wealth:



Financial Wealth

This is the most understood type of wealth. It’s generally what people mean when they say someone is wealthy.

Financial wealth is all about money – the money or financial assets an individual has accumulated. Financial wealth is an alluring stick for success. For those with a competitive streak, net worth offers a simple scoreboard.



Most people assume that financial wealth creates *happiness*. It's wrong to see people with money and assume everything in their life must be excellent.

Money may be correlated with happiness but only up to a baseline level of life lower than you think. Once above the baseline, total financial wealth does not create incremental happiness.

Picture yourself when you never have to worry about money again. Imagine how that will make you feel and how that would change your relationship with the world, the people around you and your family situation. This brings us to other types of wealth.

Social Wealth

A social connection can be defined as a person you have the potential to interact with, whether face to face, on the phone, internet, etc. This would include family members, relatives, co-workers, friends, pets, etc. Just like economic wealth, you inherit some of these connections (family, relatives, etc.) and others you earn (spouse, friends etc.).

Each connection has a different value, depending on its depth. You can invest the effort to increase the value of any connection or make new connections.

A social connection can also be negative (hateful relationships, enemies, etc.). These negative connections are social debt. To get the total net value of your social wealth, you add the full value of your positive, you will have for daily positive interactions, and overall, you will feel emotionally well. Provide confidence in the ability to meet emotional needs in the future.

The more social wealth you have, the more secure you feel about meeting your emotional needs in the future and in times of emotional distress. This allows you to live confidently and improves your quality of life.

Social wealth primarily comes down to how we interact in the world. Yes, it also deals with luxury cars, houses, and our appearance, but it mainly deals with what kind of character we create and how others interact with this character and perceive it.

Physical Wealth

Physical wealth is about your health, fitness, and vitality. It is perhaps the most critical and under-appreciated type of wealth.



Without physical wealth, it is impossible to experience and enjoy the benefits of any other type of wealth.

Physical health is built through the long-term compounding of daily actions which include exercises or daily movement, nutrition, and good sleep habits. Health is wealth.

With the right mindset, we can easily enhance our health. Simple changes to our nutrition, sleep and activity levels can significantly impact us. If we couple that with understanding more about our body and minds through reading and surrounding ourselves with the right people, it can be a real game changer for our overall sense of wealth.

Mental Wealth

Mental wealth is about mental health, mental fitness, and an ability to wrestle with the tangible and intangible questions in life. It may include but is not limited to health, knowledge, wisdom, mindfulness, spirituality, and faith.

Mental health is often overlooked, particularly by those pursuing world changing endeavours, but it is essential.

Talk to someone, ask others for help, and take action to improve your mental health daily. Never sacrifice mental health for any reason.

Mental wealth also includes the long-term accumulation of knowledge and wisdom. I think of this as “mental fitness”, the flexing of your brain as a muscle and the continued growth of that muscle over time. It is the most important muscle to flex daily. Read, write, talk, and learn. Mental wealth also covers an ability to wrestle with the intangible or unanswerable questions in life.

Mental wealth can be achieved through mindfulness – an awareness of oneself built through meditation, breathing or other practice.



Time Wealth

Time wealth is also about an appreciation for the precious nature of time - its value and importance. When you are young, you are a “time billionaire”- rich with time.

Too many people fail to realize the value of this precious asset until it is gone. Treat time as your ultimate currency - it is all you have, and you can never get it back.

Time is cruel. You will love it with all your being, but the reality is that time does not care about you. It is the ultimate unrequited love.

By accepting our time as finite, we can live. Never let the pursuit of financial wealth rob you of your time wealth. This is a dangerous trap that far too many people fall into.

Learn to use financial wealth as a tool to increase your freedom to choose. Time is what most of us deep down crave. However, time to ourselves is rare today because we spend much time dedicating ourselves to earning money and building our status.

In conclusion we all can achieve all five types of wealth within our lives and only when we get to this point can we begin to feel the wealth of fulfilment. This occurs when all five types of wealth are at play simultaneously and in the right balance.

This is the place where we all should strive to be. Each type of wealth requires years of dedication, practice, humility, learning and understanding. It should be viewed as a lifelong process that does not end because there is no destination.

The pursuit of financial wealth can rob you of others. Don't let that happen.

With Acknowledgement:

Wealth A Balanced Outlook by Pandit Nardev Vedalankar, Veda Niketan, 1987

Fadic.net

Author: Pt Abhimun Dudhrajh



Views from our Priests

Spiritual Wealth

**Om eka eva suhrid dharmo nidhanepyanuyaati yah,
Shariirena samam nāsham sarvamanayaddhi gachchati.**
Manusmriti 8.17.

Almighty God! All material links perish with the death of the body. It is only one's good hearted actions and deeds - Dharma - that remains with the soul after death. May this Dharma never be allowed to perish.

The young Mool Shankar sat quietly in their lounge as the close families, friends and neighbours came to pay their condolences upon the death of his young sister. He was in deep thoughts for he could not understand as to what had transpired, as the day earlier both he and his sister had engaged in many playful activities, but now at the dawn of the new day her body lay still on the bed.

Yes, like Mool Shankar we all are faced with many emotional challenges including birth, death, old age, and disease. Should we remain captured in the clutches of these miseries? How can we get independence from it? Yes, by seeking knowledge and wisdom. Nobody should remain a prisoner of any such misery, for lacking in discrimination, being devoid of faith and possessed by doubt, one remains lost in ignorance. To such a person happiness is only but a dream, and ignorance is the source of pain and anxiety.

According to western scientists humans have been in existence for approximately 28 million years, and our ancient, learned saints and sages have stated that we all have passed through many births, but very few of us can remember any of them. They have assured us that reincarnation is a reality, and some of the incidents we experience in this world today, testify to this.

How can one understand the complexities of life? First one needs to understand the nature of true knowledge, for which one needs to approach an illumined soul, as these seers of truth would give valid instructions, on the path of truth and righteousness. We need to rid ourselves of passion, fear, anger and purify ourselves by the penance of knowledge.

Also, we need to free our minds from attachment, and not identify ourselves with our bodies nor claim it as our own. Knowledge and wisdom are power and gives us the peace of mind that we seek. Whatever our previous actions, this knowledge alone would carry us like a raft,

across all our misdeeds. As the blazing fire turns the fuel to ashes, even so the fire of knowledge, turns the consequences of all misdeeds to ashes.

Meditation is an art that needs to be fully developed. Our saints and sages engaged their minds and mastered this form of art, and some of them practised it for years at a time. With a pure mind and many intelligent questions they sat in deep meditation, the results of which have even astounded our current scientists. Meditation leads to truth which at most times, remains covered by the dust of ignorance.



Meditation is the key to remove the dust and reach enlightenment, and once achieved ignorance will delude you no more. In the light of that knowledge, you will see the entire creation within your own Self.

Let your mind be established in the knowledge of the Self and lead a purpose driven life merely for the sake of positive action. On earth there is no purifier as great as knowledge and meditation, and once the purity of the heart has been attained through a prolonged practice of virtuous actions, one automatically in the course of time sees the light of truth in the Self.

With a devoted heart and soul one should practice meditation, and being full of faith the senses could be mastered, thereby becoming firmly established in God.

Growing in knowledge and wisdom, one attains the revelations of Truth, which leads to the immediate attainment of supreme peace, in the form of God-Realisation.

Once the doubts have been torn to shreds by wisdom, and the mind is fully focused on the Self, one comes to the realisation of the absolute formless God, after which nothing else remains to be known in this world. For one whose mind remains unperturbed amid sorrows and cravings, whose thirst for pleasure has altogether

Message from the President

Dear Readers

NAMASTE

AUGUST! Yes, dear readers its already the eighth month of the year. An especially important month indeed. August is of Latin origin and means “to increase” or “great.” It is derived from the word AUGUSTUS which means “exalted” or “venerable”

How apt that we celebrate Women’s Day in August. They are the exalted ones who deserve to be venerated. For, was it not the women of our country, South Africa, who marched to the Union Buildings on the 9 August 1956 to protest the extension of Pass Laws for women?

Our scriptures cite mantras that ask for women to be respected and given the dignity that they so rightly earn. And yet, women, young and old are abused sexually, physically, and emotionally every day.

South Africa observes 16 Days of Activism in December. Has this brought about any changes or improvement? I think not. It is the duty of every citizen to blow the whistle on all perpetrators of gender-based violence against women, children, men, and the LGBTQI+ community.

Gender-based violence is a universal issue affecting humanity. This year India celebrated 76 years of independence. Despite having self-rule, the position and status of women in India has various forms of violence and abuse against women, such as dowry deaths, honour killings, trafficking, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, sexual abuse, online abuse, and caste-based violence et cetera. On the other hand, Tata is perhaps the only car manufacturer in the world that has achieved full participation of women in assembly lines of two cars - the Safari and the Harrier.

As Hindus, Lakshmi Pooja is celebrated as the community pray to the Goddess Lakshmi for prosperity. Raksha Bandhan, the festival celebrating the bond and love between brother and sister is also celebrated. Let us consciously extend this token of love to all siblings and spread love and not violence.

For members of the Arya Samaj, the month of August heralds the death anniversary of the late Pandit Nardev Vedalankar. Panditji arrived in South Africa as a Gujarati teacher and went beyond his duties as a teacher in Gujarati as he realised that the Hindi language was also in dire need of structured support. It was his love of Hindi

disappeared, and who is free from passion, fear, and anger, and when meeting with good and evil neither rejoices nor recoils, is one of a stable mind. The one who has given up all desires by wisdom, and moves free from delusion, attachment, egoism, and thirst for enjoyment, has attained Absolute Bliss and reaches the supremely effulgent God.

The knowledge and wisdom gained during meditation reveals a few important truths. We are each an immortal, eternal, individual soul, very subtle in nature.

We have lived in the past, and when we left that body, that body died, but we the individual souls returned to God, who placed us in the foetus in our respective mother's womb after a conception had taken place. As the body developed, we each remained in our bodies in the womb, and after approximately nine months each of the bodies was born. Remaining in the body we each continue to use the body as a vehicle to perform the necessary duties. When our time is due, we would again leave our respective bodies to take on another. The process of reincarnation, which is applicable to every living being, continues.

When we, the individual souls, leave our bodies to return to our creator, all our material wealth, including houses, cars, and bank balances, etc, would then belong to someone else. Nothing would belong to us, and none of the material wealth would be of any use to us then, as we would not be able to take it with us.

The only thing that we would take with us would be our positive karmic balance, which we have accumulated due to the noble qualities we have developed over the years, and in our previous lifetimes, thereby determining our next life. So it behoves us to create as much positive karmic balance as possible, by taking the advice of our saints and sages, of being good and doing good. Our only spiritual wealth is the positive karmic balance that we happen to create. How does the law of karma work? Well, every time we do something good our karmic account is credited and every time we do something evil our karmic account is debited, thus giving us a new balance. And God is just, and no soul would ever be deceived.

Author: Pt Bhagirathi Basdhew

that saw the establishment of an independent body that concentrated all efforts on the teaching and learning of Hindi. Panditji himself wrote the Grammar and Reading books, as well as setting the syllabi of the various grades.

At the Arya Samaj, Panditji saw a need for the teaching of Hinduism, which prompted him to introduce to all Hindus, irrespective of their religious and language differences, the graded courses of the Veda Niketan, a standing committee of the Arya Samaj South Africa.

The Veda Niketan is the propagation and examination arm of the Samaj. Pandit Nardevji's books are popular and still used today. The books and examinations attract students from many countries – to name some of them, America, Canada, Suriname, Holland, Trinidad, Guyana, Mauritius, the UK, and Africa.

Panditji's work also extended to the training of Priests under the banner of the Vedic Purohit Mandal or the Vedic Purohit Academy. Priests were trained to conduct the sixteen sanskars as well as to be available to the community in times of calamities and natural disasters. To date the Samaj has inducted hundreds of Priests at grand Induction Ceremonies and this has been well received by public in general.

Panditji's legacy lives on as we continue to spread the teachings of the Vedas and of Swami Dayanand Saraswati through the medium of the Veda Niketan, the School of Vedic Studies, and the Vedic Purohit Mandal. The mode of teaching and learning is now digital and very soon, examinations will also be written online.

In conclusion, I want to say that the lessons and teachings of our scriptures will live on and be relevant even in this fast moving, changing world. We will always be guided by those teachings which are all value and truth based.

Let us always respect and promote each other.

Pt Arthi Nanackchand Shanand

Sanskrit words explained

पोष

Poṣa

The word means: thriving, prosperity, abundance, wealth, growth, increase.

The literary sources of the word are the Rig Veda, the Atharva Veda, the Brāhmaṇa, the Gṛhya Sūtra and the Shrauta Sūtra.hhhhhh

BACK TO THE VEDAS LECTURES

Pandit Nardev Vedalankar Biennial Memorial Lecture



Pandit Nardev Vedalankar Biennial Memorial Lecture

Topic: The Legacy of Pt Nardev Vedalankar and why it is important today

Keynote Speaker: Dr Veer Dev Bista

Saturday 26 August 2023 3pm to 5pm SAST (GMT+2)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81299888772?pwd=bnFxRTcxS0htWTBDWE5FYVgza2w2dz09>

Meeting ID: 812 9988 8772

Passcode: back2vedas

Announcements

You are invited to send articles to the editorial committee for publication. Please email your submissions to admin@aryasamajsa.org

Acceptance conditions:

1. All submissions must be in word for the attention of the editorial committee.
2. All Sanskrit words must be in Italics.
3. Photographs submitted must be in high resolution.
4. All references must be cited.
5. The limits for articles will be as follows:
 - 5.1. Short articles & messages three hundred words,
 - 5.2. Current issues and social justice up to nine hundred words
 - 5.3. Feature articles 1500 to 3000 words,
 - 5.4. Secondary articles up to 1500 words.
6. The acceptance of articles will be considered based on the following criteria:
 - 6.1. Vedic teachings,
 - 6.2. Principles of the Arya Samaj,
 - 6.3. Social justice and social action,
 - 6.4. Relevance to current issues.

To contribute to projects of the Arya Samaj contact admin@aryasamajsa.org
Please send your comments and suggestions to admin@aryasamajsa.org

Rig Veda 9.63.5

कृण्वन्तो विश्वामार्यम् "Krinvanto Vishwam Aryam" Make the World Noble

Yajur Veda 36.18

मित्रस्याहम् चक्षुषा सर्वाणि भूताननि समीक्षे mitrasyāham chakṣuṣā sarvāṇi bhūtānani samīkṣe May we all live in friendly cooperation and mutual trust

मित्रस्याहम् चक्षुषा समीक्षामहे "mitrasyaaham chakshushaa sameekshaamahe" May we look at all with an Equal and Friendly Eye

Veda Jyoti Founding Editors were Pt Nardev Vedalankar (1913-1994) and the late Manohar Somera



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