

Importance of Sun God in Vedas –A Dialogue Meeting

A Dialogue Meeting on ‘Importance of Sun God in the Vedas’ was organized by WAVES India at Arya Samaj, DAV Public School, Sector 9, R K Puram, New Delhi on 8th April 2017. The Key Speaker was Dr. Shashi Tiwari, General Secretary, WAVES. The session was chaired by Shri Suryapal Singh, Secretary, Arya Samaj, DAV public School, Sector 9, RK Puram, N.Delhi. The other speakers were - Prof. Bhu Dev Sharma, Dr. Ranjit Behera, Dr. Ganesh Dutt Sharma, Dr. Asha Pandey, Dr Vijay Sankar Dwivedi, Dr. Vedwati Vaidik, Mr. H.L. Kohli and some students.

Dr S.Tiwari said in her lecture ‘that the universe is made on scientific principles, and that’s why it is well measured. Vedic seers have a great vision about this universe. Yāska in his *Nirukta* (7.2) has talked about three Gods - Agni in earth, Vāyu or Indra in atmosphere, and Sūrya in heaven. Each one of them is known by various names depending on the different actions performed. These three gods are three major forms of energy; fire on earth, air in intermediate space, and Sun in upper region. Other energies of those regions are related to or are under them. There has been no time when the importance of the sun was not realized. In the *R̥gveda*, we chiefly recognize five solar deities Sūrya, Savitr̥, Pūṣan, Mitra, Viṣṇu, because they, having solar features, are praised independently in the hymns or verses. Bhaga, Aryaman, Vivasvat, Amsa, and Āditya are few other names of the sun mentioned in the *R̥gveda* and in other Vedic Saṁhitās. They are epithets or indicators of the Sun-god describing his other actions and characteristics. It is not always very clear which aspect of the Sun they signify’.



‘The adjective ‘destroyer of diseases’ is given to Sun-god in the Vedic verses. A *R̥gvedic* verse praises him for the treatment of sickness of heart (*Hridrogam*) and the yellowness ‘Jaundice’ of body (*Harimāṇam*). *R̥gveda* acclaims the Sun as Ātman of the whole moveable and immovable world. Due to the realization of his numerous natural powers and actions Sun-god, is invoked with a group of solar deities for prosperity, health and happiness in the Vedic hymns, and is also realized as a Supreme god. Later we find various statements on the divinity of Sun in ancient literature. In the Ramayana, Shri Rāma worshipped Śūrya by reciting the Ādityahridaya Stotra, and in the Mahābhārata, Udhishthira invoked Sun

by reciting the Ashtottarasata-nāma Stotra. The tradition continued in Purānas, where number of Surya-stotras are found describing him as Supreme, almighty, creator and stimulator of life’.

Prof. Bhu Dev Sharma explained the importance of solar energy and its connection with supreme energy. How powers of this universe work within a human being on scientific principles is amazing, he proclaimed. Dr. Vedwati Vaidik elaborated the point giving examples from Upanishads. Pajāpati created human body where all deities agreed to reside. Human body is abode of all deities. Dr. Ganesh Dutt Sharma referred about the certain minute observations of Vedic Seers about Sun God in Vedas. He is controller of cosmic activities and regulator of time. All sources of light depend on Sun.



Dr. Ranjit Behera talked about the names of Surya given by Yaska in Nirukta. His characteristics are very wide. The etymologies of these names are not quite clear to through light on all the forms of Surya. Dr. Vijay Sankar Dwivedi said that study of Sun god is related with many fields, and Mr. H.L. Kohli pointed out some important ancient kings of Solar dynasties by presenting his English poem. Expressing her views on the importance of Surya deva, Dr. Asha Pandey illustrated her experience about the healing powers of Surya. Especially Solar rays are very essential for eyes and skin alignments. On this occasion, a new book named ‘*Naimishāranya-chintanam*’ authored by Dr. Mala Chandra was released by Prof. Bhudev Sharma.

