

Revisiting the Past Knowledge Tradition of Bharat:
A Critique
(Volume-1)



International Academic Publishing House (IAPH)

**Revisiting the Past Knowledge Tradition of Bharat:
A Critique
(Volume-1)**

Editors:

Dr. Rajiba lochan Mahapatra, Dr. Arpan Das and Dr. Somnath Das

Published by:

International Academic Publishing House (IAPH)

Revisiting the Past Knowledge Tradition of Bharat: A Critique (Volume-1)

Editors: Dr. Rajiba lochan Mahapatra, Dr. Arpan Das and Dr. Somnath Das

Cover conceptualised and designed by Prof. Tanumay Panda

First published: 13th February, 2025

ISBN: 978-81-978955-6-2

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.52756/rpktbc.2025.e01>

Price: Rs. 832.00 (Eight Hundred Thirty-Two rupees only)

10 USD

Published by:

Manorajan Madhu

International Academic Publishing House (IAPH)

Publishers Address

Head Office:

Village & Post. Thakurnagar,

P.S. Gaighata

Dist. North 24 Parganas

West Bengal 743287

India

E-mail: iaphjournal@gmail.com

National Branch Office:

Sri Manorajan Madhu

Sarada Sarani, Nibedita Park,

Post Office: Hridaypur,

Dist- North 24 Parganas,

Kolkata, Pin – 700127,

West Bengal, India

E-mail: iaphjournal@gmail.com

International Branch Office:

91 Victoria Road, Swindon

SN13BD, ENGLAND

E-mail: publisher@iaph.co.in

All rights reserved. Without the author's prior written consent, no portion of this book may be duplicated, distributed in any way, stored in a database, or used in a retrieval system.

Copyright: Authors and Publishers

This publication's target is to provide business owners with reliable, factual information. Any choices you make or actions you take as a result of reading this book must be based on your own commercial judgement and are solely at your own risk. This is the explicit understanding under which it is sold. The consequences of any actions or decisions made based on the advice offered or recommendations made are not the responsibility of the publisher.

Type setting and Printed by:

International Academic Publishing House (IAPH), Kolkata, India

Foreword

It is an honour for me to write a foreword for this book titled “**Revisiting the Past Knowledge Tradition of Bharat: A Critique (volume-1)**” edited by Dr. Rajiba Lochan Mohapatra, Dr. Arpan Das and Dr. Somnath Das.

The book covers learning resources cutting across eight organised disciplines such as physics, chemistry, philosophy, geography, history, economics, literature and education which reveals that knowledge is holistic and it has no boundaries. This corroborates the idea of multi-disciplinary and inter disciplinary nature of knowledge envisaged in NEP 2020. Indian philosophy acknowledges one and only one reality, Advaita Vedanta. Therefore, the knowledge of reality cannot be fragmented. Time has come to remove the silos between science and social sciences. There has to be a reconciliation between the material and social nature of man. Forms may be many but the informing spirit in every branch of knowledge is one. The forthcoming book demonstrates the oneness of knowledge. It promises to restore the indigenous knowledge and value system which guided our life and living over centuries. The medieval and colonial period of Indian history has reduced our glorious past to unimportance, resulting in cultural alienation of Indians. Our students, even at the tertiary level, hardly know that India is the classic land of culture and religion where philosophical thinking had its origin in the form of the Veda and the Upanishad long before Thales, the pioneer of philosophical thinking in the West. Indian Dharma is so inclusive that all religions can be accommodated within its fold. We are the people to say वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्..... सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः . We have the potential to lead the world community towards peace and progress. There are thirteen chapters in the book with distinct seminal ideas. Various chapters in the book can enlighten and elevate the readers to the next higher intellectual level. The first chapter of the book talks about the preservation of regional literature, acknowledging the multilingual nature of this diverse land. The second chapter highlights the need to safeguard biodiversity and ensure the rule of law. The third chapter brings Chanakya back to life by focusing on the relevance of the Arthashastra in contemporary India. The fourth chapter seeks to analyse the Vedas so as to pave the way for the holistic development of man. The fifth chapter seeks to rediscover the wisdom of ancient Hindu jurisprudence. The sixth chapter intends to inspire us to accumulate spiritual wealth instead of personal gains and accomplishments. The seventh chapter, which is related to economic thoughts, takes care of Samyak Ajibika as envisaged in the philosophy of Lord Buddha. The eighth chapter throws light on cosmology according to Vedic contemplation. The ninth chapter is relevant for teachers and teacher educators and intends to call upon them to integrate Indian Knowledge System into the modern curriculum and spiritualise the process of education. The tenth chapter calls upon scientists to build a bridge between chemical knowledge and practices of ancient days and contemporary life, which poses a menace to the very existence of the human species. The eleventh chapter seeks to draw an analogy between Brahmana in the Upanishadic tradition and aether in Physics. The twelfth chapter is an attempt to address epistemological issues arising out of Indian philosophy and present a framework to deliver full proof knowledge of reality. The thirteenth chapter analyses Teacher Education in colonial India, directed towards class education, so as to revisit the contemporary teacher education practices and make it India-centric, directed towards mass education of substantial quality.

The book contains a comprehensive package to cater to the intellectual curiosity of those who are in pursuit of knowledge and wisdom from an Indian perspective.

I congratulate the authors and editors of the book to bring up such a finished work which would be of immense help for the implementation NEP 2020 in the country.

My best wishes and warm regards to all those experts who are associated with this great work. Let the process continue to generate intellectual and spiritual thinking. Looking forward to see the second volume of the work.

(G C Nanda)

Former Professor of Education,
Dean, School of Social Sciences,
Chairperson, Council of Deans,
Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha
Senior Fellow, ICSSR
&

Vice-Chancellor, Netaji Subhas University, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
Currently Retired Professor of Education, Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar

Acknowledgement

An edited volume on ‘Revisiting the Past Knowledge Tradition of Bharat: A Critique’ is coming to the light. This book has thirteen chapters. Each chapter is contributed by eminent scholars of the respective field. The topics covered are diverse. These are—Literature, Biodiversity, Arthasastra of Chanakya, Vedas, Hindu Jurisprudence, Spirituality, Economics, Cosmology, NEP-2020, Chemistry, Physics, Epistemology and Teacher Education.

In this context, we owe our gratitude to all our authors for their intellectual contribution. Their research, information and presentation will definitely add value to our book.

This book will open the mind of readers about the ancient Indian knowledge system and foster their curiosity to know more about ancient Indian knowledge and its application. We are thankful to the potential readers of this book for showing their interest and finding time to read it.

We express our utmost respect to Dr. Gauranga Charan Nanda, Retired Professor of Education, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, for going through the matter and writing its ‘foreword’. We express our pranam for his generosity.

Nothing in this world is possible without the blessings of God. It is his blessing that is fructified in the form of this literary Endeavour. We bow before the almighty for his bountiful blessings.

Rajiba Lochan Mohapatra, Ph.D.

Arpan Das, Ph.D.

Somnath Das, Ph.D.

**Dedicated to Swami Tattwasarananda Maharaj-
Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math**

**A beacon of wisdom, compassion and unwavering spiritual
strength.**

**Your life of selfless service, profound insight and quiet
resilience continues to illuminate the path for seekers of
truth. This work is a humble offering at the feet of your
towering presence, in gratitude for the timeless inspiration
you have shown in hearts across generations.**

May your light guide us ever inward, towards the self.

Contents

Chapters	Chapter Details	Page No.
Chapter-1	Preserving regional literature: By the people, Of the people --Meera Vasani	01-08
Chapter-2	Geographical indications and Indian traditional knowledge system (Bharatiya Paramparik Gyan) : safeguarding biodiversity and legal frameworks -- Tanumoy Panda	09-30
Chapter-3	Chanakya's <i>Arthashastra</i> : Its culture and political relevance for the present time-- Kalyani Samantaray	31-37
Chapter-4	Holistic Development in Vedas: An Analysis- Rajib Santra	38-44
Chapter-5	Rediscovering the wisdom of ancient Hindu jurisprudence: enduring principles and their modern-day relevance on the Global Stage-Arpan Das	45-58
Chapter-6	Spiritual wealth: A notion of personal development-Susmita Choudhury and Somnath Das	59-67
Chapter-7	Economic thoughts in Ancient India- Some fundamental issues and their relrvance- Arnab Majumder	68-76
Chapter-8	Cosmos: The vedic oblivision of the universe-Arkapratiim Changder	77-83
Chapter-9	The integration of Bharatiya Jnana Parampara into modern education through the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 towards Holistic views in Spiritual learning-- Somnath Das, Prakash Ray and Saeed Anowar	84-92
Chapter-10	Chemical knowledge and practices in Ancient and Medival India- Saptarshi Biswas	93-99
Chapter-11	Brahman in Upanishads and Luminiferous aether in physics: An analogy- Kousik Mukherjee	100-106
Chapter-12	Gettier-like Problem in Indian Epistemology	107-112
Chapter-13	Teacher Education in Colonial India: An Indian Intellectual Discourse- Ajoy Ghosh	113-132

