

ARE THE ANCIENT VEDS THE FIRST SCRIPTURES OF THE ANCIENT UNIVERSE

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The most mysterious Sukta among the mysterious Suktas of the Rigved is the 'Nasadiya Sukta'. This is the birth place of philosophy. The fifth and sixth parts of the Sukta unravel an unbelievable mystery – Really, who knows and who can tell how all this was created and where this universe came from? The genesis of Gods and deities is much later, and the genesis of the universe is of a much earlier period. In such a situation, who knows how all this came into existence? (How did the Veds come to know what they have described above? The implied meaning here is that the Veds themselves are ever-existent, eternal.). All this was generated by the One who generated the universe. (He has created this by His will-power.). Or He has not generated it; it has been generated of its own volition, without His inspiration. Only the One who is sitting high up in the skies with his eyes watching the universe knows it (the mystery of those two things). Or, perhaps even he does not know it (because before the formless, attributeless universe, even the concepts of knowledge, will and action did not exist). Analysis - Two things are notable here. Firstly, how did the Veds come to know this? And secondly, since the description of this creation appears in the Veds, it follows that the Veds knew about it. According to the concepts

of the Hindu religion, if the performance exists, then obviously the performer also exists. The first Richa of the Nasadiya Sukta says that before the universe came into existence, there was the Almighty, and there was the material with which to create the universe. The famous German philosopher Kant had said, "Give me the material to create the universe, and I will create the universe." Vedantis call this material as 'Maya', and the creator as 'Brahma'. All the Puranas unanimously say that it is Brahma who creates not only this universe, but every universe, because there is only one Brahma.

Reasoning - Now, the question is, how did the Veds come to know about the mystery of the genesis of the universe? The reasonable answer to this is that the Veds are not from this universe, but they are from some other universe. So, we have to find out as to which universe the Veds belong to.

According to Hindu thinking, all the eighteen Puranas say that so far, seven universes have been created. Each of these seven occasions is called a Manvantar. These are –

- 1.Swayambhu Manu – Manvantar – Genesis of the universe of the constellations.
- 2.Surochish Manu – Manvantar – genesis of the earth.
- 3.Uttam Manvantar – The moon got separated from the earth.
- 4.Tamas Manvantar – Land came out of the ocean.
- 5.Raivat Manvantar – Genesis of the vegetation.
- 6.Chakshusu Manvantar – Genesis of the animals and birds.
- 7.Vaisvat Manvantar – Genesis of man.

This description is from the 'Shwet-Varaha-Kalp', in which Brahma generates in the following order – Mahat-Tatva, Ahankar, Bhootsarga, Indriya, Devata, Avidya, Chaikrut, Tiryak, Manushya (man) and the other lesser forms of life.

Chart showing the Order of genesis

We can see how things happened from the ancient universe to the modern universe, from this chart.

Adi Shakti

Akshar Brahma Maya Brahma Shabda Brahma

Universe

|

Formless Universe | Formed Universe

Shiv

|

Vishnu

|

Brahma

Brahma generated 17 sons – these were generated from His will-power, and not out of copulation. Their names are – Marichi, Atri, Angira, Pralasta, Pralaha, Ritu, Vashishtha, Bhrigu, Daksha, Kardama, Narad, Sarad, Sadanand, Sanatan, Somkumar, Swayam and Chitragupta.

Vedankur - In the seventh Manvantar (Vaivasvat Manvantar), which is the present universe, Brahma generated the copulation-generated universe through the copulation of couples of males and females. All the universes generated before were generated from will-power and penance. All His 17 sons were also generated from the universes generated out of will-power (sankalp-shakti). Kartikeya and Ganesh, the two sons of Shiva were also generated like this, and not out of copulation.

Genesis of Shruti - After creating man on the earth, since He was the father of man, Brahma set a code of conduct for him, which was to be learnt by way of listening and telling. This process was Shruti, and it continued to be so through all the ages.

Now the question was, how to formalize this Shruti and shape it in the form of a scripture? For this, Brahma generated 16 sons, but they proved useless for this purpose. So, to create a scripture called 'Ved', as well as to protect the code of conduct and see that it was followed, Brahma created the seventeenth son out of His will-power, and the son had the lotus flower, inkpot, ink and plates in his four hands. His name was Chitra or Chitragupta.

Out of the 79 deities that have been praised in the Rigved, Chitragupta is the 64th one. Later, he learned the Brahmi language and Brahmi script from his father Brahma, and created the Brahms (Mantras). Later still, this same Brahmi language became Sanskrit, from which hundreds of languages were created. In the ancient universe, this is the language which describes the divine principles of the divine universe. In this language with well formed alphabets, Chitragupta created one Ved, which included the whole Shruti, with the grace of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh (Shiv). Spontaneously, he sang in their praise, "Guru Brahma, Guru Vishnu, Guru Maheshwar".

Thus, Brahma inspired his loyal and capable son Chitragupta to write all the knowledge in the Shruti, in the form of the Ved.

While the Shruti was in its original unwritten form, it was not Ved. It became Ved after Chitragupta wrote it in the form of a scripture. This took place before the generation of universe out of copulation. As such, the Veds are traditionally called 'Apaurusheya', which literally means 'not created by man', i.e., logically, created by God.

Like the Veds, peacock and heron are also birds created in the universe created from will-power. Their reproduction is done without copulation. The female heron bears the first drop of rain in the month of Ashadh in her womb. Kalidas has described this in his famous 'Meghdoot'. The peahen drinks the tears of the peacock and thus achieves the reproduction., which is why the peacock is deemed to be a sacred bird. Goddess Saraswati (as

per the Jain religion) rides on a peacock, and Lord Krishna has put its feather in His crown. Sadhus and sanyasis use its feathers at the time of worship and reading holy scriptures.

Epilogue – To find out during which of the universe (created out of will-power) the Veds were created, is a job for the sages and Yogis, who visited the period during which the Veds were created and Shruti was transformed into the Veds, with their Yogic powers. As a researcher, the result of my efforts is that the ancient Ved (one Ved) was created in the ancient universe.

Manu Smriti tells us that the total period of existence of one universe (one Brahma Din) is made up of 1000 Chaturyugis (group of four ages), and one Brahma Ratri (period of universal destruction) also consists of 1000 Chaturyugis. One Brahma Din has 14 Manvantars, and one Manvantar is made of 71 Charuryugis. One Chaturyugi consists of 1728000 years of Satyayug, 1296000 years of Tretayug, 864000 years of Dwaparyug, and 432000 years of Kaliyug. All told, one Chaturyugi has 4320000 years. 14 Manvantars means a total of 994 Chaturyugis. One Brahma Din has 14 Manvantars, and 14 Manvantars means 1000 Chaturyugis. There is a difference of 6 Chaturyugis in these two.

Dayanand explains this difference: human beings enjoy the period of 14 Manvantars according to their Karma (i.e., they enjoy the material things in the universe), and the balance period of 6 Chatruyugis is deemed to be the period taken from the time of the start of the creation of the universe out of the molecules, till the creation of man. Since man did not exist during this period, this is not included in the period of enjoyment stated above. So, broadly, this period is not included in the Manvantars.

Out of the 14 Manvantars, the first six Manvantars i.e., Swayambhu, Surochish, Uttam, Tamas, Raivat and Chakshusu are over. We are in the seventh Manvantar presently, i.e., Vaivasvat Manvantar. Out of this Manvantar, 27 Chaturyugis are also over. The Satyayug, Tretayug and Dwaparyug of the 28th Chaturyugi are also over, and we are now into the last one, Kaliyug.

Now, let us work this out. The number of years of these past Manvantars and Caturyugis comes to 1960852977. Presently, this is the Vikram Samvat 2055. If we add 2055 to the above figure, then it becomes clear that it is 1960855032 years since the genesis of man and creation of the first Ved by Chitragupta.

The period from the first movement of the molecules towards creation of the universe, to the universal destruction is one Brahma Din, i.e., 4320000000 year, and from the generation of man to the beginning of the universal destruction, the period comes to 4294080000 years. This is the period during which man can enjoy the material things of the universe.

This calculation of mine exactly matches with the Manu Smriti and the Mahabharat. Manu says in 1/21 that in the beginning of the universe, the Almighty has fixed all names and duties, as well as the various systems, by using the words from the Veds.

Mahabharat (Shanti Parva 232/24) says the Almighty, at the beginning of the universe, has said the eternal, divine words in the form of the Veds, according to which the behaviour and life of man goes on.

The same thing is confirmed in the chapter of 'Moksha Dharma' in the Shanti Parva of the Mahabharat (232/25-26) – After the universal destruction, when the universe was created again, the Almighty preached the Veds and taught to perform various duties accordingly.

Finally – It is certain that the Veds are the first scriptures of the ancient universe. Chitrugupta, the 17th son of Brahma compiled the Shruti in the form of the Ved, in the form of a scripture. Much later, at the end of the most recent Dwaparyug, Badarayan divided this one Ved into four, for the convenience of the people – Rigved, Yajurved, Samved and Atharvaved.

