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*All things arise and cease due to  
interdependent causes and conditions*

~Δ~

**The Top 12-Fabulous Fours  
and  
The Significance of India  
in the World**

By

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## The Top 12-Fabulous Fours From India or the Darshana Suddhasundaram Sanatana Vaidika Dharma

Translated as

The Supreme Vision of the Most Beautiful Eternal Truth of the Wisdom Teachings

By Bing Escudero © 2002 v4.0

### (1) 4-Major Cultural Periods of India

- 1st • Vedic Period +2500 to 600 B.C.
- 2nd • Epic Period 600 B.C. to 200 A.D.  
(Mahabharata • Bhagavadgita • Ramayana)
- 3rd • Sutra Period Early Christian Era
- 4th • Scholastic Period 1800 to Present

**Agamas** means scriptures derived from tradition.

**Sutra** means 'thread' or aphorism, a verse.

### (2) 4-Vedas or Wisdom Teachings

- Rig Veda 1 Hymns
- Yajur Veda 2 Rituals
- Sama Veda 3 Melodies
- Atharva Veda 4 Affirmations

**Shastra** means sacred books, divided into 4 categories:  
Sruti 1 what is heard  
Smriti 2 recollections  
Purana 3 ageless legends;  
& Itihasa, conclusions  
Tantra 4 techniques, dialogues, treatises

### (3) 4-Parts of a Veda

- Mantras 1 Chants, Invocations
- Brahmanas 2 Rituals, Precepts
- Aranyakas 3 Retreats, Meditations
- Upanishads 4 Reality Realizations

**Cultural refinement** is an expression of people's aspirations.

### (4) 4-Upa Vedas or Subsidiary Sciences

- Ayurveda 1 On Healthful Living
- Dhanurveda 2 On Defensive Tactics
- Ghandharva 3 On Music & Dance
- Arthashastra 4 On Entrepreneurship

**Upanishad** literally means "sitting at the feet of the master" to awaken wisdom. Also as, "end of the vedas."

### (5) 4-Vedangas or Expository Vedas

- Siksha 1 Phonetics, Diction
- Vyakarana 2 Grammar, Writing
- Nirukta 3 Linguistics, Etymology
- Khandas Shastra 4 Prose & Poetry

The word **Veda** is derived from the root word *Vid* which means *to know* or *realize*. Also, **Vidya** means wisdom.

### (6) 4-Varnas or Vocations

- Shudra 1 Server, Worker
- Vaishya 2 Trader, Merchant
- Kshatriya 3 Defender, Warrior
- Brahmin 4 Knower, Teacher

### (7) 4-Ashramas or Life Stages

- Brahmachari 1 Student Stage
- Grihastha 2 Family "
- Vanaprastha 3 Retreat "
- Sannyasi 4 Holiness "



**(8) 4-Purusarthas or Pursuits in Life**

- Artha 1 Wealth
- Kama 2 Pleasure
- Dharma 3 Righteousness
- Moksha 4 Freedom

**(9) 4-Major Yogas or Paths of Divine Union**

- Karma 1 Yoga of Service
- Bhakti 2 " " Devotion
- Jñana 3 " " Knowledge
- Raja 4 " " Empowerment

**(10) 4-Elements & ♦ Metaphor**

- Prithivi 1 Earth ♦ Physical
- Apas 2 Water ♦ Emotional
- Tejas 3 Fire ♦ Mental
- Vayu 4 Air ♦ Spiritual

**(11) 4-Avasthas, States of Consciousness**

- Jagrat 1 Waking
- Svapna 2 Dreaming
- Sushupti 3 Meditating
- Turiya 4 Realizing

**Pada** means part, chapter; significant power of words; meter of verses.

**Mandala** is an aspect of truth or reality surrounded by beauty.

**(12) Four Universal Principles of Reality**

- Brahman 1 The Absolute, the Ineffable
- Atman 2 The human soul is divine
- Karma 3 Justice rules the universe
- Punarjanma 4 Rebirth leads to perfection

## The Significance of India in the World

India is much more than a political map that looks like an inverted triangle pointing to the hot equator. For India is where the lowlands of our earth rise to the cool peaks of *Himavat* (original name of the Himalayas, the abode of snow), in upright triangles pointing to the highest heavens.

This metaphor is all the more made evident in the ageless wisdom literature of India. Savor it in the sweeping vastness of the *Mahabharata* of more than 270,000 lines, the longest epic in the world. In the *Mahabharata*, the *Bhagavad-Gita* is found, a universal manual for decision-making, unsurpassed in the world.

Enthrall with, and find your real self in, the intrigues and integration of cosmic and human forces brought into play in the love epic of the *Ramayana* with its multileveled interpretation.

Resolve that supreme quest for our cosmic and human origin, nature, and destiny, in the ageless acumen of the *Agamas* and *Avasthas*, in the perennial truths of the *Sutras* and *Shastras*, in the universal wisdom of the *Upanishads*, and in the eternal verities of the *Vedas* and *Vidyas*, to which all the other philosophical masterpieces known anywhere in the world are merely footnotes.

Come to that inner realization of the Godhead in you by the tried, tested, and proven guidance of the *Yoga Sutras*, the experiential validation of those ineffable spiritual truths espoused by all the major religions of the world.



Sanskrit is not just the mother of all languages. It is in no small measure, the replete repository of those great teachings that integrate philosophy, religion, science, and the arts.

This integration is found in expositions of ultimate realities. **Philosophy** is not only the love of wisdom, but also the wisdom of love or *Premavidya*. **Religion** is not only the search for God, but the experiential union with the Divine or *Samadhi*. **Science** is not only the search for truth, but the discovery of the truth in the center of our own being or *Satyanarayana*. **Art** is not only the search for beauty, but the purified vision of the beatific order of the universe or *Suddhasundaram*.

Just as the teachings of Jesus is not called "Jewism," so is the original name of the vast and penetrative literature from India not "Hinduism," largely implying one of those that belong to a conglomerate of divergent "isms" unworthy of consideration.

Remember, the teachings from India is not Hinduism. The complete correct name is—*Darshana Suddhasundaram Sanatana Vaidika Dharma*—meaning, "The Supreme Vision of the Most Beautiful Eternal Truth of the Wisdom Teachings." Or, for short, it is simply called, the *Dharma*. This Dharma comes from India, but it belongs to the world, meant for the whole of humanity.

*Darshana* means that penetrative Supreme Vision. *Suddhasundaram* means the Most Beautiful of all. *Sanatana* means the Eternal. *Vaidika* means that Realization of Wisdom. *Dharma* means the Real Teachings or Reality Teachings.

Moreover, the word "dharma" literally means "togetherness" or "duty that holds together," and has many other meanings, such as, truth or true nature, order, law, governance, edict, principle, ethical value, spirit, divinity, revelation, realization, and more, suggestive of spirituality that uplift human consciousness.

The name *India* (from *Indra*) means the Land of Conquerors, symbolized by that final battle of *Kurukshetra* or Armageddon, the ultimate conquest or vanquishment of the selfish and arrogant ego, the decisive victory fought and won within, the triumph of spirituality over personality.

Dive and delve into the depths of spirituality that saturate the arcana of India's literature. Discover the truth of our truest, deepest and most divine nature of our essential humanity. Then dare to live it to its utmost.

As each one of us shall find that wisdom (*vidya*) and that inner peace (*shanti*), then will each one live the intelligence of the life spiritual that brings and sustains true happiness in our world. ~ Δ ~

Shakunthala Jagannathan. *An Introduction to Hinduism*. Bombay, India: Vakils, Feffer & Simmons Ltd., 1984.

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan & Charles A. Moore, eds. *A Sourcebook in Indian Philosophy*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1957, 6th printing 1967.

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