



Five Elements of Vaidik Sanskrit literature – Basic of Environment : Save it and save the world

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Abstract:

Environment pollution is the biggest problem of the whole world and the problem of solution is in vaidik Sanskrit literature. Five elements of nature is cover the whole environment. The five elements are Earth, Water, Air, Fire and sky. Earth Water and Air are prone to pollution while the rest remain un affected. So, if we want to solution of this problem of globalization and pollution, we must save the basic element of environment.

Keywords: *Five elements, Vaidik Sanskrit literature, Environment*

1. Introduction

Earth is an extra ordinary place to live for her myriad life forms she provides just the right environment in which they can grow. The planet's human inhabitants are beginning to understand that when they negatively impact the natural environment it has a detrimental effect on people and their communities

Environmental pollution is one of the serious problems that confront the world. The contribution of Sanskrit towards the protection of environmental is tremendous. Five element of nature described in vaidik literature very well. The word constitutes five elements, earth, water, air, fire, and sky, of these the three elements earth water and air are prone to pollution while the rest remain unaffected. The pollution which disturbs ecological is environmental pollution.

This five element are cosmic elements which create nature and sustain all forms of life and after death or decay they absorb what was created earlier, thus they play an important role in preserving and sustaining the environment and the five great elements are earth, air, space water and fire (light) some further description about this elements is given below.

2. Key Terms

1. Five Elements: In this study five elements means land, water, air, sky and fire. These five elements are basic of environment.
2. Vaidik Sanskrit literature: In this study vaidik Sanskrit literature means Vedas and in the Vedas the five elements described as divinity.
3. Environment: In this study Environment means five elements. water, land ,air, fire and sky.

2.1 Earth (Prithivi)

Rigveda describes prithivi as divinity as well as one of the mahabhutas. She is the mother and upholder at all. Prithivi is also indentified with the goddess Aditi; a mother and protector of the holy cosmic low. Human relationship & prithivi is describe in Atharvveda.

2.2 Vayu (Air)

Vaidik seers knew the importance of air for life. Vayu is the bond and the thread which keeps the universe together. Vayu is also linkened to prana. Vayu is the germ of the world and transformer of seed. Without prana nothing survives.

2.3 Apah (Water)

Water is essential to all form of life. According to rig-veda the water as a part of human environment occurs in five forms;

- 1 Rain forms
- 2 Natural spring
- 3 Wells and canals
- 4 Lakes
- 5 Rivers

2.4 Aakas (Space)

Modern environmentalists discuss sound or noise pollution. There is relation between ether and sound. The sound waves move in sky at various frequencies. Sunshines in dhyuloka and we get light from sky. The sun rays strengthen our inner power and are essential for our life. Thus importance and care for ether is openly mentioned in the vaidik seers.

2.5 Agni (Fire)

The transformer to matter in to non matter is the heat or energy that keeps everything living and non living always on the move.

These five elements are base milestone of the environment and in Vaidik literature also prove that it we want to save our life than we must save these elements

We know that human beings find expression fulfillment and meaning of life in relation to the environment to life on earth forms as integral part of human life. Paganism, nature worship and such age old customs retained by mankind are self evident of man's close connection and relation with nature and the natural phenomena. With the advent of modern civilization development and industrial growth, Man has developed a rivalry with nature. The personal and emotional cord between man and nature has already been lost during the process of growth and progress of mankind, But the human body made of five elements cannot survive without nature. The crude realization raises many questions including question of human ethics as well as environmental ethics to be taken up seriously.

The five basic element already recognized at the origin of most cultures can best be described in contemporary scientific terms as the "basic environmental elements" It is precisely because they are environmental elements that they have been observed and considered of great importance by all men in all cultures in one form or another. Five elements of nature is also internal part of human body and the Hindu philosophy described that when a man dead than his body isin Panch tatva means five elements. That meant that man in environment and environment in man.

In vaidik literature five elements of nature has its own dignity. It's all are "Daivi tatva" and every human beings are salute and pray for them. .

3. Some Vaidik quotes for five elements

(1) Prthivi (Earth)

The earth is the mother.

- The earth makes one sharpened and brilliant.
- On has to sustain the earth and injure not it.

(2) Vayu (Air)

- May wind blow pleasantly for us.
- Wind blows healing balm, below all disease away.

(3) Agni (fire)

- Agni is worshipped for bliss.
- Agni purifies one and drives ill fortune far away.

(4) Apah (Water)

- Water is mother.
- The divine water full of sweetness averts the diseases of men.
- Water is healing.

(5) Akash (Space)

- Akash is the body of the brahmana.
- This space is honey to all being and all being are honey to this space.

These all quotes describe that the five elements are most important for human life. While referring to the “Environment of life” the vaidic scriptures consider earth, water, air, space and fire collectively. All components of nature are said to be interrelated and inter dependent. Serral of the vaidik text preach that the earth, water, life, air, planet and animals are together supporting the human life syatem on this planet and provide guidelines towards ecological balance and healthy coexistence of all. As per the vaidik literature, whenever there is an imbalance in the natural harmony of destruction begins. The word “Karyavad” is used her to describe the cause for pollution.

Environmental pollution problems and globalization are biggest problem of the world. And it we want to soulution of these problems than we all must save the basic element of environment and this is the right way to save the world.

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