



## **Bodh Mala – 6**

# **Akhila Bhāratiya Saṁskṛti Jñāna Parīkṣā**

For

(All India Culture Awareness Examination)

Conducted by

Vidya Bharati Sanskriti Shiksha Sansthan



**Rev. & Hon'ble Panduranga Shastri alias Dada Aathwale**  
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## Preface

In almost all countries of the world, it is considered necessary and important to include inputs relating to their religion, culture and nationalism in the educational curriculum and, thereby, develop an awareness about these subjects among the students. Unfortunately, however, in our sacred Bhāratvarṣa, there is no concern about our dhārmika and cultural ethos being made a part of the educational system. While studied attempts were made, during the foreign rule, to create an apathy, to our dharma and culture, in post independence Bhārata too, no effective steps have been taken to induct, in our students, sentiments of pride and feelings of glory about our dharma and culture. The present state of decay in our national life owes itself, among other things, to this indifference also.

There is talk today to bring about total transformation of our Bhāratīya system of education. Need is being felt to make education, value-oriented. Efforts are being made to evolve a knowledge based society with scientific temper. In order to achieve this objective, what we need to do in the first place, is to educate our students from an emotional point of view. What we need to do is to give a preeminent position to the subjects of our eternal dharma, culture, ethics and spirit of nationalism in our system of education. Our forefathers have made matchless contribution in the spheres of knowledge and sciences with the objective of proper evolution of human society. It is necessary that our students understand this and take legitimate pride and develop self-confidence on account of these contributions of our elders. It is with these feelings that we have developed this series of books. We are confident that our Vidyālayas (schools) will be positively benefited by it.

In the present booklet, different topics have been dealt with in a nutshell. While this series would prove useful for "Saṁskṛti Jñāna Parīkṣā" (Culture Awareness Examination), We request our community of Ācāryas (teachers), to give detailed inputs, with contextual background, on these subjects so that they are motivated to undertake an in depth study there of.

Secretary

Vidya Bharati Sanskrit Shiksha Sanstha

## Acknowledgement

It is an age of technological avalanche, soul-less materialism and cut-throat careerism. Our generation, getting education in the so-called English medium public schools, remains deprived of our cultural heritage. Therefore a great need was being felt for preparing an English version of the series of *Sanskriti Bodhmālā*. We wish to convey our deep and sincere gratitude to Shri Pran Nath Pankaj ji, a Chandigarh-based renowned scholar of Hindu philosophy, culture and dharma for his tireless help in bringing out the English version of the series. We feel proud of his association with this work. I do convey my thanks to Shri G.S. Mudambadithaya, President, Karnataka unit of Vidya Bharati, who alongwith his team, prepared the English version of some of the books of this series initially for using them in the schools affiliated with Vidya Bharati in Karnataka, and later permitted us for the publication of the same for using them at national level. I shall be failing in my duty if I do not convey my gratitude to Dr. Himmat Singh Sinha, retired Chairman of Dept. of Philosophy, Kurukshetra University who has devoted his precious time to editing and proof- reading work of the English scripts.

Secretary,  
*Vidya Bharati Sanskriti Shiksha Sansthan,*  
*Kurukshetra*

## Scheme of Transliteration

Except certain standardized expressions, Sanskrit words / terms, where expressed in Roman script, have been transliterated as per the following scheme.

### Vowels ( स्वर )

अ a, आ ā, इ i, ई ī, उ u, ऊ ū, ऋ r̥, ॠ r̄, लृ l̥, ए e, ऐ ai, ओ o, औ au, अं ṁ, अः ḥ.

### Consonants ( व्यञ्जन )

क् k, ख kh, ग् g, घ् gh, ङ् ṅ, च् c, छ् ch, ज् j, झ् jh, ञ् ñ, ट् t, ठ् th, ड् d, ढ् dh, ण् ṇ, त् t, थ् th, द् d, ध् dh, न् n, प् p, फ् ph, ब b, भ् bh, म् m, य् y, र् r, ल् l, व् v, श् ś, ष ṣ, स् s, ह् h, क्ष kṣ, त्र tr, ज्ञ jñ,

Each consonant has to be followed by the appropriate vowel, as required, to make the sound complete; hence क (क्+अ) would be ka. Similarly का (क्+आ) = kā, कि (क्+इ) = ki, की (क्+ई) = kī, कु (क्+उ) = ku, कू (क्+ऊ) = kū, कृ = (क्+ऋ) = kṛ and so on.

### Explanatory Note ( व्याख्यात्मक विवरण )

'C' का उच्चारण आम भाषा में 'स' जैसे cell या 'क' जैसे Club होता है परन्तु इस अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पद्धति में इसका उच्चारण केवल 'च' होगा, वहां 'च' के लिए ch नहीं लिखा जाएगा जैसे caraṇa (चरण) 'छ' के लिए ch लिखा जाएगा, जैसे chātra (छात्र) यदि च् लिखना हो तो cch, जैसे गच्छति = gacchati. ś = श, ṣ = ष और s = स यह अन्तर भी अपने आचार्यों को स्पष्ट सीखना पड़ेगा अन्यथा 'श' के लिए वे sh लिखेंगे। ज्ञ के लिए Jñ तो आसानी से समझ आ जाता है, ऋ के लिए r̄ (जैसे ṛṣi). इस पद्धति का प्रयोग केवल संस्कृत शब्दावली के अनुवाद पर लागू होता है हिन्दी, हिन्दुस्तानी, उर्दू पर लागू नहीं होता।

अकारान्त अ, (क्+अ) = क और हलन्त का भेद भी संस्कृत शब्दों पर ही लागू होता है जिसे स्पष्ट समझना पड़ेगा। इसके पालन से उच्चारण दोष नहीं रहेगा।

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### **Blueprint of the question paper**

## राष्ट्र गीत - वन्दे मातरम्

वन्दे मातरम्!

सुजलां सुफलां मलयज-शीतलाम्,

शस्य श्यामलां मातरम्! वन्दे मातरम् ॥1॥

शुभ्र-ज्योत्स्ना-पुलकित-यामिनीम्।

फुल्ल-कुसुमित-द्रुमदल-शोभिनीम्।

सुहासिनीं, सुमधुर-भाषिणीम्।

सुखदां, वरदां, मातरम्! वन्दे मातरम् ॥2॥

कोटि-कोटि-कंठ कल-कल-निनाद-कराले,

कोटि-कोटि-भुजैर्धृत-खर-करवाले,

अबला केनो माँ एतो बले।

बहुबल-धारिणीं, नमामि तारिणीम्,

रिपुदल-वारिणीं मातरम्! वन्दे मातरम् ॥3॥

तुमि विद्या तुमि धर्म,

तुमि हृदि तुमि मर्म,

त्वं ही प्राणा शरीरे।

बाहुते तुमि मा शक्ति,

हृदये तुमि मा भक्ति,

तोमारई प्रतिमा गडि मन्दिरे-मन्दिरे। वन्दे मातरम् ॥4॥

त्वं हि दुर्गा दशप्रहरण-धारिणी,

कमला कमल-दल-विहारिणी,

वाणी विद्यादायिनी, नमामि त्वाम्

नमामि कमलां अमलां अतुलाम्,

सुजलां सुफलां, मातरम्! वन्दे मातरम् ॥5॥

श्यामलां सरलां सुस्मितां भूषिताम्,

धरणीं भरिणीं मातरम्! वन्दे मातरम् ॥6॥

## Invocation to *Saraswatī*, the Goddess of Learning

या कुन्देन्दुतुषारहारधवला या शुभ्रवस्त्रावृता।  
या वीणावरदण्डमण्डितकरा या श्वेतपदमासना।  
या ब्रह्माऽच्युतशंकरप्रभृतिभिर्देवैः सदा वन्दिता॥  
सा मां पातु सरस्वती भगवती निःशेषजाड्यापहा॥1॥

**Meaning** : May Goddess *Saraswatī*, the destroyer of slothfulness and ignorance, protect us. She is fair complexioned like the hues of jasmine flower, frost and necklace of pearls. She is wrapped in white garments. In her hands, *vīṇā* (lute) and *danḍa* (staff) are gracefully held. She is seated on a white lotus. *Brahmā*, *Acyuta* (Viṣṇu), *Śiva* and other gods always pay obeisance to her.

शुक्लां ब्रह्मविचारसारपरमाम् आद्यां जगद् व्यापिनीम्।  
वीणापुस्तकधारिणीमभयदां जाड्यान्धकरापहाम्॥  
हस्ते स्फाटिकमालिकां विदधतीं पद्मासने संस्थिताम्।  
वन्दे तां परमेश्वरीं भगवतीं बुद्धिप्रदां शारदाम्॥2॥

**Meaning** : I salute *Śāradā* (*Saraswatī*), the Supreme Goddess, and the bestower of knowledge. She is of white complexion; She is the embodiment of the highest spiritual learning and represents its essence. She is the foremost among all forms of divine energy and is omnipresent. In her hands, she carries *vīṇā* (lute), *pustaka* (book) and rosary of crystal beads (*sphāṭika mālā*); she is remover of the darkness of ignorance and occupies the lotus-seat.

## प्रार्थना

हे हंस वाहिनी ज्ञानदायिनी, अम्ब विमल मति दे।  
जग सिरमौर बनायें भारत, वह बल विक्रम दे।  
अम्ब विमल मति दे॥  
साहस शील हृदय में भर दे, जीवन त्याग तपोमय कर दे,  
संयम सत्य स्नेह का वर दे, स्वाभिमान भर दे॥1॥

लव, कुश, ध्रुव, प्रह्लाद बनें हम, मानवता का त्रास हरें हम,  
सीता, सावित्री, दुर्गा माँ, फिर घर-घर भर दे॥2॥  
हे हंसवाहिनी, ज्ञानदायिनी, अम्ब विमल मति दे॥

## Prayer

O Mother! you ride *Haṁsa* (swan) and are the bestower of wisdom. Give us unblemished intellect. Give us the valour and power so that we may make *Bhārata*, the crest-jewel of the world.

O Mother! fill our hearts with courage and character, make our lives the symbols of renunciation and austerity. Give us the boons of self-restraint, truthfulness, and love and fill us with pride in ourselves.

May we become like *Lava*, *Kuśa*, *Dhruva* and *Prahlāda*. May we liberate humankind from fear. O Mother! may our families be full of *Śītās*, *Sāvitrīs* and *Durgās* once again.

O Mother! The rider of *Haṁsa* (Swan), bestower of knowledge, give us unblemished intellect.

## 1. *Bhārata* : Our motherland

To every Indian this country is dearer than life. Every speck of it is sacred. That is why every Indian sings : 'Martyrs lie beneath every particle of this soil and every stone has a history'. The saga of sacrifice and valour is inscribed at each step of our motherland. Though it is impossible to describe the glorious and celestial beauty of this land by writing or speaking about it, yet, being the sons of this motherland it is our duty to acquire the maximum knowledge about it. This majestic and sacred land of ours is known by many names such as Bhāratvarṣa, Āryāvarta, Bharat-Khaṇḍa and Hindusthān. In what wonderful reverence the people here hold this land! And why it should not be so? The offspring is part of mother's life; that is why worshippers of motherland sing :

Many beautiful countries may be there on this vast earth,

But our mother is our mother which loves us so much,

We pray to be born a hundred times on this land

So that we may sacrifice a hundred lives for this.

In the ancient days the boundaries of our motherland extended to Burma in the east, Pakistan and Afghanistan (up-gaṇasthāna) in the west, Tibet in the North and Ceylon in the South.

In 1947 along with getting the freedom half Panjāb, Sindhu Pradeṣa, Balochistan and Northwest Frontier provinces in the form of Pakistan and East Bengal, in the form of East Pakistan, (Bangla Desh) were severed off from our motherland.

## Our States

Our country is very large. It has been divided into many administrative units called states. One of these states, is Odisha. Let us learn about Odisha.

Odisha is situated on the Eastern Coast of India. In olden days, Odisha was known by three names as Kāliṅga, Oḍra, and Utkal. The glory of this state lies in its cultural history. Out of the four most sacred places of pilgrimage or Dhāmas, one namely Jagannāthpurī is



situated in this state where the beautiful wooden idols of Balarāma, Jagannātha (Śrī kṛṣṇa) and Subhadrā have been installed. The devotees throng this place from far and near on the second day of Āṣāḍa bright fortnight and participate in world famous chariot passession of Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra. The famous sun Temple of Konārḱ is also situated in this state. The capital of this state is Bhubneshwar.

The famous caves of Udaigiri and Khandgiri are near Bhubneshwar. The great Saṅskṛta poet Jai Dev was born here who wrote poetical composition Gīta Govindam in Sanskṛta, the songs which are set to music and sung in Jagannātha temple. Vaiṣṇava, Śaiva, Jain and Buddhistic sects have been living in Odisha since ancient times.

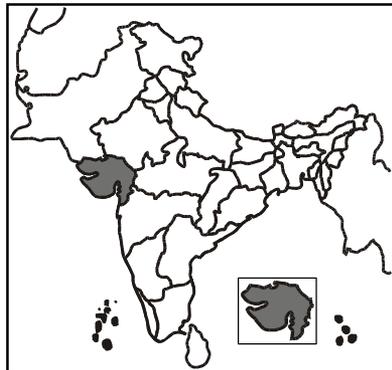
### Some other facts worth knowing about Orissa :

1. The Capital of Odisha is ..... (**Bhubanesvar**)
2. Paradeep is a big ..... in Odisha. (**Port**)

3. This state occupies ..... place in production of Iron ore in India. **(Third)**
4. The famous rivers of Orissa are :  
 (a) ..... (b) .....  
 (c) .....  
**(Mahānadi, Vaitarnī, Brahmāñī)**
5. .... Dam is on ..... river near Sambalpur.  
**(Hirākud, Mahānadi)**
6. The famous dance form of Orissa is ..... and its language is .....  
**(Odissī, Oriā)**
7. The biggest lagoon lake of India ..... is in Orissa.  
**(Chilka)**
8. .... is biggest city of Orissa. **(Cuttack)**
9. The work of thin silver wires is known as .....  
**(Tarakashi)**
10. The Song is called ..... in Orissa.  
**(Champū)**

## Gujarat

Situated on the western coast of India, Gujarat is not only rich in natural wealth but its cultural history is equally rich. Lord Kṛṣṇa chose this land to establish his kingdom and made Dvarikā, its capital. This land has the honour to be the birth place of Swami Dayananda **(Mool**



Shankar). The hero of Indian freedom movement, Mahatma Gandhi was born in Porabandar. The ironman of India, Sardar Patel, was also born here who, after independence, played a vital role in the reconstruction of famous Somanāth Temple. The famous Palitānā with 863 Jain Temples is also in Gujarat. In Dhoulavira in Kutch, the remains of organized city-life dating back to 5000 years have been excavated which shows that the cultural heritage of India has been reached in developed stages centuries ago which has been till now. Multipurpose project of Sardar Sarovar on Narmada river has also been completed.

### **Facts to be learnt about the state of Gujarat :**

1. The language of Gujarat province is **Gujarati**.
2. Its capital is **Gandhinagar** which is near Sābarmatī river.
3. **Kandla** is the main port for North-western India.
4. The Ran of Kutch is basically a marsh land and salt is prepared from the sea water in the bay of Khambat.
5. Karnavati (Ahamadabad), and Surat are very famous for cotton textile industry.
6. Mineral Oil and Petrol Gas are extracted in Ankleśvar.
7. The Dam constructed on Mahinadi takes care of the irrigational needs and electrical supply of the state.

### **Important Facts about Motherland -**

**The sacred rivers of India have been irrigating this land since times immemorial. Tell us —**

1. Which part of India is most densely populated and is formed by the soil of which big rivers?

**(the plains of Gaṅgā & Yamunā)**

2. Name six sacred rivers of North India?  
(Gaṅgā, Yamunā, Sindhu, Brahmaputra, Gomatī & Saryū)
3. Name the six sacred rivers of the South.  
(Mahānadī, Godāvarī, Kṛṣṇa, Kāverī, Tungbhadrā, Tāmraparṇī)
4. Which river is known as daughter of the Sun?  
(Yamunā)
5. The Ganges descended on the earth due to the efforts of which Sūryavanśī King?  
(Bhagīrath)
6. Which holy tank was created by filling the water brought from Gangotri by Bhagwāna Nārāyaṇa?  
(Nārāyaṇ Kund)
7. What is the place of origin of Narabadā?  
(Amarkaṅtaka)

**Let us know the names of our holy Mountains :**

1. Which mountain is known in Sanskṛta by the name of Pāriyātra?  
(Arāvalī)
2. What is the name of the mountain where dense sandal wood forest are there?  
(Malaya Parvata)
3. Which five shilās (stone slabs) have been installed at Badarinātha dhāma? (Nārad śilā, Mārkaṅḍeya Śilā, Narasimha Śilā, Varāha Śilā and Garuda Śilā)
4. Nīlagiri mountain is situated in \_\_\_\_\_ state.  
(Karnāṭaka)
5. The hills of Satpurā are augmenting the beauty of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Madhya Pradesh)

6. In the middle of India there is \_\_\_\_\_  
Mountain? (Vindhyāchala)
7. How grand is Himalaya mountain; The name of its  
highest peak is \_\_\_\_\_ (Sagar Matha / Everest)
8. Narmadā, Sonbahadra etc. rivers originate from the  
peak of \_\_\_\_\_ mountain.  
(Amarkaṅtaka)
9. Let us know the names of 12 Jyotirlingas.
1. Somanātha (Gujarat)
  2. Mallikārajuna (Shri-Śailam, Andhra Pradesh)
  3. Mahā Kaleśvara (Ujjain, M.P.)
  4. Omkāreśvara (M.P.)
  5. Kedāranātha (Uttaranchal)
  6. Bhimaśankara (Maharashtra)
  7. Viśvanātha (Kashi, U.P.)
  8. Triyaṃbkeśvara (Nasik, Maharashtra)
  9. Vaidyanātha (Jhārkhanda)
  10. Nageśvara (Gujarat)
  11. Rameśvaram (Tamil Nadu)
  12. Ghuśmeśvara (Ghrishneshwara), (Maharashtra)

**Que. Where are the following places situated :**

- (a) Vaiśṇo Devi, (b) Vaiśālī, (c) Taxśilā  
(d) Kumbhānagar (e) Panja Sahib, (f) Lavpur (Lahore)

Ans.(a) Jammu and Kashmir, (b) Bihar, (c) Near  
Rawalpindi (Pakistan), (d) Afganistan, (e) Pakistan,  
(f) Pakistan

**(C) Describe the boundaries of modern India by filling in  
the blanks —**

1. In the North are sky-high mountains .....  
(The Himālayas)

2. In the South ..... washes its feet. (Indian Ocean)
3. To the South East is ..... And South West is ..... (Gaṅgā Sāgara, Sindhusāgara)
4. To the East is ..... (Brahmadeśa or Myānmāra)
5. To the North West are ..... and ..... (Pakistan, Afghanistan)
6. The ancient names of Afghanistan, Burma, Tibet are—
  - 1..... 2..... 3.....
  - (Gandhāra (Upagaṇasthāna), Brahmadeśa, Triviṣṭapa)

### Only Bharat shall remain on my head

National pride should always remain in our heart. A leaf from the life story of Swami Ram Tirtha motivates us in this direction.

During his two and a half years tour of America and other western countries whatever money Swami Ram received as gift, he spent it on feeding the hungry people of those countries. He was left with only one American dress. After returning from America, one day he tried to put on that dress. He casually put the Coat and Pants on his shoulder, instead of wearing them and after putting on the shoes, he stood up, but in place of the precious hat, he covered his head with his own simple turban.

Someone asked him, “Why have you not worn the beautiful hat on your head?” In ardent passion he replied, “There will always be Bharat on the head of Rama though America can remain in his feet.” Saying so, he bent down, took the sacred soil of his motherland, and smeared it on his forehead.

## Patriotic Song

Our Mother land, father land and  
The land of our Dharma,  
Is Great! Is Great! Is Great!  
Kailāsa and Kashmir adorn its head  
Like jewels in the crown  
The places of India have unparalled  
Beauty of this earth.  
There are no places as great as India.

The Great rivers like Gaṅgā, Sarasvatī & Gomtī,  
Kauśikī, Kāverī, Saryū, Taptī, Irāvātī,  
Brahm, Sindhu, Narmadā flow here  
India is great! Great is India!, Great is India!

These Jyotirlingas, symbolising the great Śiva,  
Are the celestial lamps of our mother land,  
Many Śaktipīthas are the symbols of its strength,  
Badarī, Jagan, Dvarikā, Rāmeśa are its great shrines.  
India is Great, Great is our India,

This is the land of great philosophers and thinkers  
This has been the land of Saints, Siddhas and Yoḡīes,  
God resides in its people in the form of Lord Rāma & Śyāma  
India is Great! Great is our India. India is Great,

This is the brithplace of Saṅnyāsīs (ascetics)  
and great Kings,  
They have kept the flag of their Dharma flying  
all over the world,  
Listen! The past is singing their praise,

## 2. Progeny of *Bhārata* – Hindu Society



**“Tijasām na hi vayah samīkṣyate” Age is of no consideration for the brave and the illustrious. Numerous brave sons of mother India have immortalized themselves in history by their deeds. Let us remember these brave sons and resolve to follow in their foot-steps.**

Where the women are revered, there dwell the gods. In our Indian traditions, the devotee and Karmayogi women have been assigned high place of honour. Indian women possess incomparable power. Given below is the description of great deeds performed by great women, due to which they have heightened the prestige of womanhood.

1. “O God of death (Yamarāja) give me back my husband’s life.” The Yamarāja said, “No! ask for something else.” Then give eyesight to my parents-in-law. “ So it be” said Yamarāja. “My parents- in-law should get back their kingdom.” “Granted”, said he “Well, this would be achieved.” Yamarāja, grant me one more wish.” “What?” “I should beget a son.” Without thinking, the Yamarāja said, “Granted.” “Oh! How can I get a son without my husband?”. At last Yamarāja had to give life to her husband. In this way ..... by her perseverance and wisdom got back the life of her husband. **(Sāvitrī)**

2. A great women who accompanied her great, noble husband Lord Rama son of Daśaratha during fourteen years of exile was ..... who was a devoted wife and who gave birth to brave sons Lava & Kuśa.  
(Sītā)
3. Keeping in mind the happiness of her husband (Vācaspati Miśra) she surrendered her wishes and assisted him to complete his work. The husband was so pleased that he named the book after the name of his wife as ..... (Bhāmatī Teeka)

**Even if I have to die a thousand deaths for my country  
I may not mind this agony!**

**O Lord! Bless me with birth in India, a hundred times.**

**So that I may lay down my life again and again for the  
sake of this holy land.**

**Tick (✓) the correct names —**

1. Service of the nation is the service of Rama. It is the service of my motherland, that is the service of Srī Krishna. (Veer Savarkar, Madan✓ Lal Dhingra)
2. When they were being buried in the wall, the wall reached up to the neck. Both looked at each other and smiled. All of a sudden tears rolled down the elder brother's eyes. The younger brother (Fateh Singh, Ram Singh, Zorawar✓ Singh) asked, "Are you afraid of Death brother, No, Not at all. A real Hindu is never afraid of death. The elder brother (Zorawar Singh, Ram Singh, Fateh✓ Singh) replied "The tears came in my eyes at the thought that I was born earlier to you but you are getting the chance of sacrificing your life earlier".

3. The sons of Guru Gobind Singh laid down their lives while fighting the enemies in the battle field. (Ajit<sup>✓</sup> Singh, Jujhar<sup>✓</sup> Singh, Fateh Singh and Zoravar Singh)
4. "You will get enormous wealth and kingdom" but, for what?" "Just renounce your dharma and accept Islam. "No. Never." And so he was put to death. (Balak Haqeeqat<sup>✓</sup> Rai, Prithvi Raj)
5. At a very tender age that brave boy, played with lions. (Bharata<sup>✓</sup>, Kṛṣṇa, Rāma)
6. King Duṣyanta was surprised to see that the child was playing with the lions in such a tender age. (Lava, Kuśa, Bharat<sup>✓</sup>)
7. He pulled Kansa by the hair and dashed him on the ground and killed him. (Rama, Kṛṣṇa, Abhimanyu)
8. Who defeated the intoxicated elephant Kuvaliyāpīda with his strong arms. (Bharata, Ram, Kṛṣṇa<sup>✓</sup>, Abhimanyu)
9. One who took a vow to enter the cakravayūha (troops drawn up in circular but peculiar formation) alone in war of Mahābhārata and penetrated into cakravayūhā like an arrow and put worried Yudhiṣṭhira in surprise..... (Abhimanyu<sup>✓</sup>, Eklavya)

### **'Azad hi Rahenge' (Shall always remain free)**

"A policeman chased Chandrashekhar to catch him but he could not be caught. However soon he was identified because of sandal paste on his forehead. When he was presented before a magistrate, he told his name as Azad (The Freeman). When asked to tell his father's name, he told it was 'Swatantra' (Free). He gave his address as 'prison-house'. Hearing such bold replies, he

was awarded the punishment of 15 Cane-charge, and there after he acquired the fame as 'Azad'. Even in his tender age, Azad had pledged "We shall face the bullets of the enemy, we are Azad (free) and shall remain free always."

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Who wrote the national song 'Vande Mātaram'?  
(Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyya)
2. In which book do we find the song Vande Mataram?  
(Ānand Math)
3. Name the writer and revolutionary who wrote the book "Six Golden pages of Indian History"? (Veer Savarkar)
4. Who was the founder of Ayurvijnana? (Dhanvantari)
5. Which ancient Indian seer invented the atomic theory?  
(Kaṇāda)
6. Born in a Royal family but despised the Royal power Lord Krishna was impressed by his morals, intelligence, skill and truthfulness and accepted his hospitality ignoring the sumptuous feast given by Duryodhan.  
(Mahatma Vidur)

### **Birthdays of our great people**

<i>Name of the great person</i>	<i>Date of Birth</i>
1. Goswami Tulasidasa	Śrāvaṇa Śuklā 7, 1554 Vikramābda
2. Guru Nanak Dev	Kārtika Śukla 15 (Pūrṇimā), 1526 Vikramābda
3. Sant Ravidāsa	Māgha Śukla 15 (Purṇima), 1456 Vikramābda
4. Lord Mahāvīra	Caitra Śuklā 13 (Trayodaśī)

- |     |                      |   |
|-----|----------------------|---|
| 5.  | Lord Kṛṣṇa           | <i>Bhādrapada Kṛṣṇā 8<br/>(Aṣṭamī)</i>      |
| 6.  | Lord Rāma            | <i>Caitra Śuklā 9 (Navamī)</i>              |
| 7.  | Veda Vyāsa           | <i>Āṣāḍha Śuklā 15 (Pūrṇimā)</i>            |
| 8.  | Lord Buddha          | <i>Vaiśākha Śuklā 15<br/>(Pūrṇimā)</i>      |
| 9.  | Mahaṛṣi Vālmīki      | <i>Āśvin Śuklā 15 (Pūrṇimā)</i>             |
| 10. | Guru Gobind Singh    | <i>Pauṣa Śuklā 7, 1723<br/>(Vikramābda)</i> |
| 11. | Sri Aurobindo        | Aug. 15, 1872 A.D.                          |
| 12. | Jagdish Chandra Basu | Nov. 30, 1858 A.D.                          |
| 13. | Swami Rama Tirtha    | Oct. 22, 1873 A.D.                          |

(\**Śuklā* stands for the bright fortnight and *Kṛṣṇa* for the dark one of the month.)

### **3. The Hindu View of Life**

Almighty, the supreme conscious Being is God. He is omnipresent. Every animate or inanimate thing of the world is pervaded by God, behold the world with this point of view. Lord Kṛṣṇa also said this to Arjuna in Gītā, “O, Arjuna, God is seated in the hearts of all the living beings on this earth.

#### **God realization**

Our sages and saints, Bhakatas and enlightened seers have realised God in every thing living or non-living. Thus they realized God in various forms in accordance with the state of their knowledge or level of devotion and pious actions in various forms. That is why it is said that we should witness God in our hand in three

forms and contemplate that the fore part of our hand (the fingers) in the form of Lakṣami, in the middle part (palm) resides Sarasvatī, the goddess of knowledge and in the last part of our hand resides Govinda; so, watch your hands after getting up early in the morning. We have accepted God in the form of many gods and goddesses and incarnations of God and worshipped them. We have remembered God by many names like, Rāma-Kṛṣṇa, Buddha-Mahāvīra, Brahmā-Śiva, Indra-Yama and Viṣnu-Nārāyaṇa. This very God has been called by the name of Sat Guru and Akal-Purukh. That is why the modes of worship are also different.

We also worship this very God in the various forms of his Śakti (energy) as Durgā, Lakṣmi and Pārvatī. All the modes of meditation and worship are the paths of realizing God. As all the rivers merge into the same sea after passing through different paths, similarly the ultimate aim of man is to realize God through all these ways of worship. Saint Tulsidas has said in Ramcharitmanas— “Ja ki rahi bhavana jaisee. Prabhu Murati Dekhi Tin Taisee.”

Every man sees God according to his own emotions and feelings.

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Whatever ..... is there in this world, God is present in everything. **(living-nonliving)**
2. Our ṛṣis and Munis, Bhakats and ..... and enlightened one’s have seen ..... in all living and non-living things. **(Saints, God)**
3. God has also been described in the forms of Sat Guru, and ..... **(Akal Purukh)**

4. That is why there are different ..... of worshipping God. **(Modes)**
5. Through all these modes ..... is the ultimate aim. **(Realization of God)**

### **Benevolence and spirit of service**

We the Hindus keep King Śivi in high esteem, who in order to save a pigeon, cut his own flesh piece by piece and put it on a scale. We remember that Rantideva, who even after remaining hungry for 48 days gave away his food to the hungry and water to the thirsty. We bow our head in reverence before the king Dilīpa who offered his body to be eaten by lion in order to save the holy cow Nandini. We sing in praise of Dadhīchi who gave away the bones of his body to make a VAJRA (mace) out of them to protect the gods.

Hamir put his everything to ruin to save Mahimashah and Bhamashah offered his life's total earning to Rana Pratap for the service of his motherland. Thousands of such examples of benevolence and spirit of service are before us in our society.

In Hindu way of life, benevolence and selfless service are considered the most sacred deeds. When a person rises above 'me' and 'mine' after realizing the futility of the narrow thinking of selfishness and learns the truth that the whole society is mine, as the Almighty God is present in everybody, he takes the sufferings of others as his own and feels pleasure to make others happy. He then starts seeing himself in others and others in himself. When this happens, he helps the poor and the needy happily without any selfish motive. He remembers the spirit of service of Swami Vivekananda and Bhagini

Nivedita. He considers the service of human beings as the service to God and derives true happiness and bliss out of it. Saint Tulsi Das has said

There is no dharma equal to doing good to others,

There is no sin equal to inflicting pains.

He called benevolence the greatest virtue and to afflict pain on others a great sin. Sage Ved Vyasa has also spoken about this truth in the following words “परोपकारः पुण्याय पापाय परपीडनम्” meaning there by that benevolence is a virtue and afflicting pain on others is a sin.

### Questions and Answers :

1. Because of which virtue do we remember Śivi & Rantideva? **(Benevolence)**
2. To save whom, the king Dilīpa offered his body to the lion? **(Nandinī – the cow)**
3. Why do we remember Dadhīchi? **(For donating his bones to save gods)**
4. What did Bhama Shah do to serve his motherland? **(He laid down all his life’s earnings at the feet of Rana Pratap)**
5. What is the place of benevolence and selfless service in Hindu way of life? **(Most sacred act)**
6. Which truth comes out after renouncing the narrow feeling of Me and Mine? **(Whole of the society belongs to me)**
7. Who can be our ideals when we think of selfless service? **(Swami Vivekananda and sister Nivedita)**

## Food Hymn (invocation before eating)

Meals should be taken after settling on a mat or an *āsana* on a clean place. Hands and feet should be washed and mouth rinsed. One should be seated in a comfortable posture (*sukhāsana*) with a composed mind. Water ought to be kept by the side. After the food has been served, the following poem and mantras should be recited collectively.

ब्रह्मार्पणं ब्रह्महविर्ब्रह्माग्नौ ब्रह्मणा हुतम्।

ब्रह्मैव तेन गन्तव्यं ब्रह्मकर्म समाधिना॥ (गीता; *Gītā* iv.24)

*Brahman* is the ladle, the oblation is *Brahman*. By *Brahman* it is offered into the fire that is *Brahman*. *Brahman* is that he attains who realises *Brahman* in his action.

ॐ सहनाववतु सह नौ भुनक्तु। सह वीर्यं करवावहै।

तेजस्विनावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहै॥

ॐ शान्तिः! शान्तिः!! शान्तिः!!! (कठोपनिषद्, शान्ति पाठ)

(*Kaṭhōpaniṣad* : *śāntipāṭha* : Invocation)

May He protect us (the teacher and the disciple) both;  
May we eat together (none may starve in the country);  
May we work together with vigour (May we express valour to protect our Nation). May our study make us illumined (so that, by dint of our collective austerities and learning, our Nation rises and shines); May there be no dislike between us. May peace prevail in our nation.

Om, peace, peace, peace.

## Morning Prayer (Prātaḥ Smaraṇa)

1. कराग्रे वसते लक्ष्मीः करमध्ये सरस्वती।

करमूले तु गोविन्दः प्रभाते करदर्शनम्॥

Let us look at our hands in the morning, for Lakṣmī resides in the front portion of the hands and Sarasvatī in the middle, whereas God himself resides in the rear part of the hand.

2. समुद्रवसने देवि! पर्वतस्तनमण्डले।

विष्णुपत्नि! नमस्तुभ्यं पादस्पर्श क्षमस्व मे॥

Our motherland is the image of the consort of Lord Viṣṇu himself. This deity has oceans for her clothes, the mountains are her bosom from which flows the life-giving milk in the form of water. O mother we pay our salutations; we are compelled to touch your body with our feet, please forgive us.

3. ब्रह्मामुरारिस्त्रिपुरान्तकारी भानुः शाशिभूमिसुतो बुधश्च।

गुरुश्चशुक्रः शनि-राहु-केतवः कुर्वन्तु सर्वे मम सुप्रभातम्॥

May Brahmā, Viṣṇu, Śiva, Sūrya (The Sun), Candra (The moon) Mangala (The Mars) Budha (Mercury), Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, Rahu, Ketu bless my mornings.

4. सनत्कुमारः सनकः सनन्दनः सनातनोऽप्यासुरि पिङ्गलौ च।

सप्तस्वराः सप्तरसातलानि कुर्वन्तु सर्वे मम सुप्रभातम्॥

Sanatkumar, Sanaka, Sanandana, Sanātana, Āsuri and Pingal and seven Svaras (notes tunes), seven underworlds, all these should bless my mornings.

5. सप्तार्णवाः सप्तकुलाचलाश्च सप्तर्षयो द्वीप वनानि सप्त।

भूरादिकृत्वा भुवनानि सप्त कुर्वन्तु सर्वे मम सुप्रभातम्॥

May the seven seas, family of seven mountains (Mahendra, Malaya, Sahya, Śaktimān, Rikṣwāna, Vindhyās and Pāriyātra). the seven sages, seven islands, (Jambu, Plukṣa, Śalmaya, Kuśa, Kraunc, Śāka and Puṣkara) and seven forests (Dandakāraṇya,

Khandāraṇya, Campakāraṇya, Vedāraṇya, Brahmāraṇya and Dharmāraṇya), bless my mornings.

6. पृथिवी सगन्धा सरसास्तथापः स्पर्शी च वायुज्वलनं च तेजः।

नभः सशब्दं महता सहैव कुर्वन्तु सर्वे मम सुप्रभातम्॥

Earth, bestowed with the property of smell, Water, having the quality as Rasa (Taste), Air having the attribute of touch, burning the quality of fire and sky having the property of sound, all these five great elements may bless my mornings.

7. प्रातः स्मरणमेतद्यो विदित्वाऽऽदरतः पठेत्।

स सम्यक्धर्मनिष्ठः स्यात् अखण्डं भारतं स्मेरत्॥

After understanding this morning prayer in the true sense, we should recite it with reverence. Having the right type of commitment to the dharma we should remember united Bhārata.

## Hymn of Unity — Rivers, mountains and Ancient cities

You must be chanting the hymn of unity. Write down the 'Ślokas' with meaning reciting the names of sacred rivers, mountains and cities.

1. गंगा सरस्वती सिन्धुर्ब्रह्मपुत्रश्च गण्डकी।

कावेरी यमुना रेवा कृष्णा गोदा महानदी॥

Gangā, Sarasvatī, Sindhu, Brahmaputra, Gandkī, Kāverī, Yamuna, Reva (Narmada), Krishna, Godavari and Mahānadī are the main rivers worth remembering.

2. महेन्द्रो मलयः सहयो देवतात्मा हिमालयः।

ध्येयो रैवतको विन्ध्यो गिरिश्चारावलिस्तथा॥

Mahendra (Orissa), Malayagiri (in south Karnatak and Tamilnadu), Sahyādri (Maharashtra) the abode of Gods, Himālayas, having the divine spirit, Raivatata (in

Kathiawar with the name of Girnara), Vindhyaçal (Madhya Pradesh) and Arāvalis (Rajasthan) are the mountains worth remembering.

3. अयोध्या मथुरा माया काशी काञ्चि अवन्तिका।

वैशाली द्वारिका ध्येया पुरी तक्षशिला गया॥

Ayodhyā, Mathurā, Māyā (Haridwāra), Kāśi, In north of India- Kānci, Avantikā (Ujjain), Vaiśāli Dvarkā, Jagannāthpuri, Takṣśila and Gayā are the holy cities (Purīs) worth meditating on.

- **Indicate in which place the following mountains exist :**
    1. Mahendragiri, 2. Malaya, 3. Sahyādri, 4. Raivtaka, 5. Arāvalī.(Utkal (Odisha), Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan)
  - **Names the spiritual sons of Brahma.**  
(Sanatkumara, Sanaka, Sanandana and Sanātana)
  - **Names the seven underworlds.**  
(Atala, Vitala, Sutala, Rasata, Talatala, Mahatala and Pātāla)
  - **Which are seven seas (Sapta Sindhus)?**  
(Lavaṇa Sāgar, Ikṣu Sāgar, Ājya Sāgar, Dadhi Sāgar, Kṣīra sāgar, Svadujala Sāgar, Madhu Sāgar)
  - **Why the following salvation cities are famous ?**
    1. Ayodhyā, 2. Mathurā, 3. Māyā (Haridwara), 4. Kāśī, 5. Kāncī, 6. Avantikā (Ujjaini), 7. Dvaravati (Dwārka).
1. **Ayodhyā** : Birth place of Lord Rāma.
  2. **Mathurā** : Birth place of Lord Kṛṣṇa where Bhartṛhari got immortality after taking a bath in Brahamakunda.
  3. **Māyā (Haridwāra)** : Kumbha fair is held here every twelfth year.

4. **Kāśī** : Birth place of seventh and twenty-third Tīrthankara of Jainism. Viśwanātha, Annapurnā and Mānas temples are also situated there. The bathing ghats of Gangā are also famous.
5. **Kānci** : This city of deliverance is in the south and is known as the Kāśī of the South.
6. **Avantikā (Ujjainī)** : Out of the twelve Jayotirlinga of Śiva, it is the abode of one Jyotirlinga called Mahākāla. It was the capital of illustrious king Vikramāditya.
7. **Dvārāvātī** : (Dvarkā) is the capital of Lord Kṛṣṇa; here Śardapītha was established by the first Śaṅkaracārya. It is one of the four Dhāms.

- **All these seven cities are known as cities of Salvation.**

**With the help of following hints, name the ancient cities.**

1. Situated at the confluence of the Gangā and Yamunā is ..... **(Prayāga, Allahabad)**
2. Situated on the bank of Sonabhadra and the Gangā in Bihar a historical city is ..... **(Pātliputra/Patna)**
3. Capital of the famous Hindu empire of Karnatak ..... **(Vijayanagar)**
4. Famous place of pilgrimage and one of four Dhāmas in Orissa ..... **(Jagannāthpurī)**
5. Capital of the Pāndavas ..... **(Indraprastha)**
6. Situated on the bank of Phalgu river in Bihar, a famous place of pilgrimage ..... **(Gayā)**

## Principle of Interdependence in the Creation

This Universe came into being out of the cosmic consciousness, Brahmā. That is the reason why all the living and non-living beings try to merge into it just as the drops having risen from ocean in the form of vapours finally strive to merge into the same sea. Sage Aurobindo has said, “It is not a mere coincidence that life force first descended into the non-living, then life force came to animated living-beings (Jīva) and then this Jīva was bestowed with a mind, all this happened as per the grand design of divine nature and that is the gradual ascent of the Existence Consciousness Bliss. Every particle of this Universe is acting to complete this grand design while supplementing the efforts of each other. That is why we see the nature, the individual and the society mutually co-operating with each other.”

No living being can develop itself of its own after taking birth; rather it will have to seek help from other members of his species in order to develop itself. Life of an individual and society are complementary to each other. Individual will have to seek help from other members of the society in order to develop physically, mentally and spiritually and indeed, in the childhood stage he is looked after by the family, which is part of society.

If we look at nature for a while we will realize that oxygen is provided by the plants for all the living beings. The plants need carbon dioxide for their survival, which is provided by all the living beings. In this manner life of all the living beings depends on each other. In the holy Gita, lord Krishna has said, “Brahma, the creator has ordained that the population be increased and made prosperous through sacrificial fire i.e. yajña. By performing this

sacrifice, you please the gods and in turn gods may make you prosperous, “That is why in our tradition yajña or sacrificial fire is accorded great importance. The rodents, frogs and snakes together make the soil fertile for agriculture. The dung we get from the cows & buffaloes is used by us in agriculture and as a fuel and excreta of human beings is used by some other animals and in this manner both make the environment clean. So, in this universe, the principle of mutual co-operation is at work everywhere.

**(a) Fill in the blanks :**

1. Appearance of ..... in inert matter, and appearance of ..... in the living things is not merely an ..... **(Life, mind, Involution)**
2. Every ..... of this universe is ..... to each other. **(Particle, complementary)**
3. Living beings get the essential ..... from the plants and the ..... receive .....for their own survival from the living beings.  
**(Oxygen, Plants, Carbon dioxide)**

**(b) Question-Answer**

4. What did Brahmāji say to do with the sacrificial fire, yajña?  
**(propagation of specie and fulfillment of desires)**
5. Which principle governs the universe?  
**(complementary to each other)**
6. By whom this universe was created?  
**(Brahmañ — the Absolute consciousness)**

**Saviour of Dharma : Devotees and Saints**

1. Name the saints and great persons who always observed the principle of non-violence?  
**(Lord Buddha, Lord Mahāvīra, Śivi, Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Cidānanda and Swami Śivananda.)**

2. What is meant by non-violence?  
(Not to hurt any living being physically or torturing mentally by words, deeds and actions.)
3. What is meant by adherence to truth?  
(Acquiring true knowledge about God, soul and Nature in order to purify one's own life and to act for the betterment of all living beings, is called adherence to truth)
4. Name the great persons who observed the vow of truth?  
(King Hariścandra, Yudhiṣṭhira, Mahatma Gandhi, Kṛṣṇa and Rāma.)
5. What do you mean by Non-stealing?  
(While following the path of dharma, to use only hard-earned things and not to steal from others in any circumstances.)
6. Which saints and great persons are known for 'Asteya' or Non-stealing?  
(Saint Vinobā Bhāve, Upmanyu, Cāṇakya, Dr. Hedgewar and King Raghu.)
7. What is meant by observing celibacy?  
(Not to hanker after the illusory happiness of senses and especially not to be misguided by the mind or the sexual urge. To preserve the life-force and to embark upon the path of spiritual development is known as observance of Brahmacharya or celibacy.)
8. Name the persons reputed for observing celibacy?  
(Hanumāna the valiant, Bhiṣma Pitāmaha, Sage Śukadeva, Sage Dayananda, Jaḍa Bharata.)
9. What is the meant by Renunciation?  
(Parigraha means seizing or catching from all sides;

Hence the opposite of this is 'Aprigraha' or not to accumulate beyond one's minimum requirements.)

10. Name a few persons who are known for Aprigraha or non-accumulation? (King Rantideva, Raja Raghu, Bhagwan Mahavir, Chanakya, Swami Ram tirtha, Pt. Din Dayal Upadhaya)

### Scientific Basis of Hindu Beliefs

Que. Why one should not take food while wearing shoes?

Ans. The lower soles of shoes have many stinking things like filth, mud, excreta and other objects giving bad smell. In Indian tradition taking food is a sacred act. Taking of food, being as sacred an act as performing worship of some deity, the contact with shoes at that time is both from scientific as well as religious point of view a reprehensible act.

## 4. The Sacred Tradition of Sacraments

### Our Cultural Festivals

The festivals of our country are the symbols of our cultural tradition. Do you know about these festivals?

1. On which auspicious day weapons are worshipped?  
(Vijayādaśmī)
2. After completing the studies, before proceeding to their respective homes, on which day the student offered Gurudakṣiṇā or gifts to Guru or the spiritual guide.  
(Guru Pūrṇimā or the full moon day of Āṣāḍha)

### Fill in the blanks :

3. In which Indian month the festival of Rakṣābandhana (Sisters tie sacred thread on the arm of brothers) is celebrated ..... (Śravaṇa)
4. The festival of Gurupurnīma is celebrated in the Indian month of ..... (Āṣāḍha)
5. Indian new year starts on ..... date.  
(Caitra Śukla Pratipadā) First day of brighter fortnight in Caitra.)
6. The birthday of Lord Ganeśa is celebrated on ..... Month on .....  
(Bhādrapada Śukla Caturthī, fourth day of bright fortnight in Bhādra month)
7. The festival of lights is known as .....  
(Dīpawālī)
8. In order to develop feeling of social harmony, the festival celebrated in the winter season is .....  
(Makara Saṅkrānti)
9. Birthday of Saraswatī is celebrated on .....  
(Basanta Pancamī)

### Places of Pilgrimage

- 1 **Puṣkara** : Near the historic city of Ajmer in Rajasthan is situated the sacred place of pilgrimage, Puṣkara. In the section of Agni Purāṇa dealing with significance of place of pilgrimage the god of Fire, Agnideva says “ O Brāhmin! Puṣkara is the best place of pilgrimage. Lord Brahmā resides along with all the gods at this place. The sages and gods who want all bounties have attained perfection by bathing in this sacred lake. Those who pay obeisance to their forefathers at Puṣkara attain the reward equivalent to performing an

Aśvamedha or horse-sacrifice and goes to the abode of Brahmā. One who offers food on the auspicious day of Full Moon in Kārtika month, attains purification of heart and becomes entitled to abode of Brahmā. By living, performing 'Śrādha' (Oblation to the deceased ones) and reciting the name of deity one helps in the deliverance of his hundred generations."

Puṣkara is a beautiful place surrounded by mountains on all sides. It is only in Puṣkara in whole of India where we have the only temple of Lord Brahmā. In the high hillock nearby the Brahmā temple there is the temple dedicated to goddess Gāyatri. Besides these temples, there are 30 to 40 more temples. The temple of Rangajī is very famous.

2. **Kurukṣetra** : The famous battle field of Kurukṣetra is known to everyone. It turned into a battle field due to adverse circumstance otherwise its importance lies in its having many elements of the place of pilgrimage. The god of fire, Agnideva, says in Agni Purāna, about this place, "I will go to Kurukṣetra-and live in Kurukṣetra, "Whosoever always recites this, becomes pure and goes to the heavens". Deities like Viśnu and others live in Kurukṣetra. By residing at this place one goes to the abode of 'Śrī Hari". Sarasvatī flowed near Kurukṣetra. Now, this has disappeared.
3. **Punaura** : This place is situated in village Punaura near the district headquarter of Sitamarhi in north Bihar. When there was famine in Mithilā, King Janaka performed haleṣṭi yajña and ploughed the earth with plough and bulls. It was here that at the time of tilling the land Sītā appeared in the form of a baby girl from underneath the earth. Janaka adopted her and nurtured her. Punaura is thus famous as the birth place of Sītā. This place was situated near the hermitage of

R̥ṣi Pundarīka. The date of birth of Janakī Sīta is the ninth day of the bright half of Vaiśakha.

## Temple

### Resounding of Bells in the temple

At the time of worship in the temples, bells are rung. Due to ringing of the bells all other sounds over-spread in the air become feeble or inaudible and the power of Vedic Mantras affect the concentration of mind with full force. The total atmosphere of the temple resounds with that very sound only, In the morning and evening, at the time of performing āratī or worship, the sound of bells gives us an opportunity to dive deep into the bliss of communication with God.

- **Cidambaram** : This temple occupies a place of pride among very ancient temples of the South. The idol of Cidambara Śiva is installed in this temple. The temple is situated within a big enclosure. There is a tank in the center. In the northern corner of the tank, there is Pārvaṭī temple, In the south of it, there exists a temple having one thousand pillars, On the western side is situated the innermost chamber with idol of Śiva. From the point of view of pillar architecture, temple of Cidambaram is very famous. These pillars have been carved and the position of these pillars holding the roof is also very elegant. In the present form of the temple, the umbrella over the idols has been destroyed.

## सद्ग्रन्थ (Holy Books)

### रामचरितमानस (Rāmacaritamānasa)

In the fifth class, we studied, in the *Rāmacaritamānasa*, the *dohās* and *caupāīs* on the

subject of the *Guru's* grace. In this class, we shall study some portions of the *Paraśurāma-Rāma-Lakṣmaṇa* interaction. Terribly angry on seeing the broken bow of Lord *Śiva* in the *Sītā-Svayamvara* organised by the king *Janaka*, Lord *Paraśurāma* asks, "Who has broken this bow?" *Lakṣmaṇa* adds fuel to fire with his replies. Later, however, on learning that *Śrī Rāma* is an incarnation of God, *Paraśurāma* retires. Appreciate the purport of the following *dohās* and *caupāīs* and learn them by heart :

अति बिनीत मृदु सीतल बानी। बोले रामु जोरि जुग पानी॥  
सुनहु नाथ तुम्ह सहज सुजाना। बालक बचनु करिअ नहीं काना॥

With folded hands then, Rāma spoke in most humble, gentle and placid tones, "Pray, my Lord, you are wise by nature. Please pay no heed to the words of a child."

बररै बालकु एक सुभाऊ। इन्हहि न संत विदूषहिं काऊ॥  
तेहिं नाही कछु काज बिगारा। अपराधी मैं नाथ तुम्हारा॥

A child and a wasp are identical in nature. Saints do not ever hold them in fault. Moreover, he (*Lakṣmaṇa*) has done you no harm; it is I, O Lord, who have offended you.

कृपा कोपु बधु-बंधब गोसाईं। मो पर करिअ दास की नाईं॥  
कहिअ बेगि जेहि बिधि रिस जाईं। मुनिनायक सोइ करौं उपाईं॥

Your Reverence! treat me as your servant and accordingly deal with me as you please, with your grace or anger, by killing me or holding me in captivity. Tell me O Lord of the sages, how your anger can subside so that I may act accordingly.

बहइ न हाथु दहइ रिस छाती। भा कुठारु कुंठित नृपघाती॥  
भयउ बाम विधि फिरेउ सुभाऊ। मोरे हृदयँ कृपा कसि काऊ॥

(Paraśurāma says) : My hand moves not even though my chest burns with anger. This, my axe, the slayer of

kings, is blunted. Fate has turned against me and my nature, I have lost. Otherwise, how would there be such compassion in my heart!

दोहा- परसुराम तब राम प्रति, बोले उर अति क्रोधु।  
संभु सरासनु तोरि सठ, करसि हमार प्रबोधु॥

Boiling then with rage, *Paraśurāma* spoke to *Rāma*, "Having broken *Śiva's* bow, You wretch, are you now teaching me a lesson?"

छलु तजि करहि समरु सिवद्रोही। बंधु सहित न त मारउँ तोही।  
भृगुपति बकहिं कुठार उठाएँ। मन मुसुकाहिं राम सिर नाएँ॥

Fight me, O enemy of *Śiva*, without resorting to any trickery; or else I shall kill you along with your brother. Even as the lord of *Bhṛgu* went on ranting and raving, with his axe held aloft, *Rāma* smiled to himself, with his head bowed down.

दोहा- प्रभुहिं सेवकहि समरु कस, तजहु बिप्रबर रोसु।  
बेषु बिलोकें कहेसि कछु, बालकहू नहिं दोसु॥

(*Rāma* says) : How can there be fight between the master and the servant? Please give up your anger, O noble *Brāhmaṇa*. This boy is also not to be blamed, speak something as he did, on seeing your attire.

जौं तुम्ह औतेहु मुनि की नाई। पद रज सिर सिसु धरत गोसाईं।  
छमहु चूक अनजानत केरी। चहिअ बिप्र उर कृपा घनेरी॥

If only you had come like a sage, this child would have paid obeisance, taking the dust of your feet on his head. Please forgive him for his inadvertence. A *Brāhmaṇa* should have abundant mercy in his heart.

हमहि तुम्हहि सरिबरि कसि नाथा। कहहु न कहाँ चरन कहँ माथा।  
राम मात्र लघु नाम हमार। परसु सहित बड़ नाम तोहारा॥

What equality can there be between you and me, O Master? Tell me, where is the head, and where feet? Mine is only a small name, *Rāma*, and yours, a big one with the prefix *Parasu*.

देव एकु गुनु धनुष हमारे। नव गुन परम पुनीत तुम्हारे॥

O Divine Lord, my bow has only one string (Or, I have only one quality that I can use the bow), whereas you have nine holy strings (there are nine sacred strings in the *Yajñopavīta* of a *Brāhmaṇa*) or, you have nine very sacred virtues as *Brāhmaṇa* (A *Brāhmaṇa* is the one, according to the *Gītā*, who by nature, possesses nine great virtues. These are : *śama* (serenity), *dama* (self control), *tapa* (austerity), *śaucam* (Purity) *kṣānti* (forbearance), *ājva* (uprightness), *Jñāna* (wisdom) *vijñāna* (knowledge) and *āstikya* (faith) [See *Gītā* , xviii, 42]).

क्षत्रिय तनु धरि समर सकाना। कुल कलंकु तेहिं पावर आना।  
कहउँ सुभाउ न कुलहि प्रसंसी। कालहु डरहिं न रन रघुबंसी॥

They would be some other ones who, having born as *Kṣatriyas*, are afraid of a battle. I say this as a matter of my nature without boasting about my lineage, that the descendants of *Raghu* are not afraid of Death himself in a combat.

बिप्र बंस कै असि प्रभुताई। अभय होइ जो तुम्हहि डेराई।  
सुनि मृदु गूढ बचन रघुपति के। उघरे पटल परसुधर मति के॥

Such is the glory of the *Brāhmaṇa* clan, that he who fears you, fears none else (or, even the one completely fearless, fears you). Hearing the gentle but profound words (i.e. the words loaded with deep meanings) of *Raghuapati*, the inner eyes of *Paraśurāma* opened.

राम रमापति कर धनु लेहू। खँचहु मिटै मोर संदेहू॥  
देत चापु आपुहिं चलि गयऊ। परसुराम मन बिसमय भयऊ॥

Hold this bow, O *Rāma*, of the consort of *Lakṣmī*, in your hand and draw it so that my doubts are vanished. As *Paraśurāma* offered his bow, it passed into *Rāma's* hands of its own accord; at this *Paraśurāma* was amazed.

दोहा- जाना राम प्रभाउ तब, पुलक प्रफुल्लित गात।  
जोरि पानि बोले बचन, हृदय न प्रेम अमात॥

*Paraśurāma* then realised the might of *Rāma*. He was enthralled and enraptured. With boundless love in his heart, he said these words with folded hands.

### Sri MadBhagvadgītā

On acquiring the knowledge of Srimad Bhagwadgita that has emerged from the holy mouth of Lord Sri Krishna the path of life of a man becomes very easy.

यतेन्द्रियमनोबुद्धिर्मुनिर्मोक्षपरायणः।

विगतेच्छाभयक्रोधो यः सदा मुक्त एव सः॥5॥

The sage who has controlled the senses, mind and understanding, who is intent on liberation, who has cast away desires, fear and anger, he is ever freed.(5.28)

युक्ताहारविहारस्य युक्तचेष्टस्य कर्मसु।

युक्तस्वप्नावबोधस्य योगो भवति दुःखहा॥6॥

For the man who is temperate in food and recreation who is restrained in his action; whose sleep and waking are regulated, there ensures the discipline (yoga) which destroys all sorrows. (6.17)

Quiz on the knowledge of Gita :

Q. : Which are the nine gates of Body?

A. : Two eyes, two ears, two nostrils, Anus, genitalia.

- Q. : To whom the man of knowledge sees with equal eyes.
- A. : Brahmin, a cow, an elephant, even a dog or an outcaste.
- Q. : With what purpose the men of action perform their action?
- A. : For the purification of inner organs of sense (Antahkarana)
- Q. : What is the type of the pleasure of senses.
- A. : It has a beginning and also an end, which means it is transient.
- Q. : Which person may be called a liberated man?
- A. : Who has become free from cravings, fear and wrage.
- Q. : For which person Yoga is the destroyer of sorrows:
- A. : Who is temperate in food and recreation and is restrained in his actions; whose sleep and waking are regulated.
- Q. : Which two methods Krishna has told to Arjuna to control the unsteady mind?
- A. : Constant practice and non-attachment.
- Q. : Who does not fall into plight and miseries.
- A. : Those who work for the welfare of others.
- Q. : Why the Lord asks Arjuna to become a Yogi (man of action).
- A. : Yogi is supreme of men of knowledge, of the persons performing action with some motive and ascetics. Therefore the Lord says 'O', Arjuna, you become the man of action (Yogi).

Q. : Which Yogi is considered the most supreme by the Lord.

A. : He who has faith and constantly devotes himself in prayer to me.

## Santvānī or Sayings of the Saints

Learn the following quotations by heart and request your teacher to explain the meaning of those quotations.

क. अभिवादनशीलस्य नित्यं वृद्धोपसेविनः।

चत्वारि तस्य वर्धन्ते आयुर्विद्यायशोबलम्॥

ख. विद्या विवादाय धनं मदाय शक्तिः परेषां पर-पीडनाय।

खलस्य साधोर्विपरीतमेतत् ज्ञानाय दानाय च रक्षणाय॥

ग. अलसस्य कुतो विद्या अविद्यस्य कुतो धनम्।

अधनस्य कुतो मित्रम् अमित्रस्य कुतः सुखम्॥

घ. येषां न विद्या न तपो न दानम् ज्ञानं न शीलं न गुणो न धर्मः।

ते मर्त्यलोके भुविभारभूताः मनुष्यरूपेण मृगाश्चरन्ति॥

ङ. काकः कृष्णः पिकः कृष्णः को भेदः पिककाकयोः।

वसन्त समये प्राप्ते काकः काकः पिकः पिकः॥

## Good Manners

You are a very promising student. You are loved by your teachers and parents alike just because of your good behavior. Your classmates respect you because of your virtues. After all, why it is so? You will get the answer after filling in the sentences given below –

1. You wish the strangers by ..... with folded hands. (Namastey)
2. You remain ..... at home at the time of religious functions. (Present)

3. You enter the class after obtaining .....  
from you teacher. **(Permission)**
4. You always ..... before the teacher while  
asking a question or answering one. **(Stand)**
5. You maintain ..... while playing with your  
friends. **(Sportsman spirit)**
6. You ..... the blind, the maimed and crippled  
you meet on your way. **(Help)**
7. You do not ..... when two persons are  
talking. **(Interrupt)**
8. Do you ..... with your class-fellow in  
organizing school activities? **(Co-operate)**
9. You always ..... the elders. **(Respect)**

### Your Own School

The school in which we study is our temple of learning. Certain things have been written below. Please answer in 'yes' or 'no' in this regard —



1. Do you feel like going to school even on holidays?  
**(Yes/No)**
2. Do you ever clean the dirt you find lying in the school  
premises? **(Yes/No)**

3. Do you take care everyday that Desks, Chairs, Tables, Pictures and Maps hanging of the walls are in order? (Yes/No)
4. Do you ever perform small tasks like sweeping the floor, spreading the matting, arranging tables and Chairs in the student's assembly/students association. (Yes/No)
5. Do you enjoy looking after the fruits and flowers in the school garden? (Yes/No)
6. Do you have feeling of respect and love for the Principal, teachers and other staff of the school? (Yes/No)
7. Do you have full information of their names and addresses? (Yes/No)
8. Do you take your guests/relatives for a visit to your temple of Education? (Yes/No)
9. Do you talk about the good qualities of your temple of learning with others? (Yes/No)

### **Stories of Devoted Disciples**

In our tradition, the teacher has been equated to God. Why it should not be so? Our parents bring us up and the teacher lays foundation of our future life. In the R̥ṣikulas and Gurukulas the students got parental love along with education from the teachers and on the basis of that the students built their future lives. That is why it is said,

“Guru or the teacher is Brahmā (the creator), the teacher is Viśṇu (The Preserver) and teacher is Maheśvara (the destroyer) as well; I bow before the Guru or the teacher who is the supreme God,”



Given below are some of the stories of devoted disciples; on the basis of these fill in the names of the disciple concerned in the blank space provided for the purpose —

1. “I had forbidden you to drink cow’s milk, then how do you sustain yourself, what do you eat in the day?” The teacher asked the student ..... . The disciple replied politely, “Revered one, I used to lick the froth that fell from the mouths of calves while drinking milk from the udders of the cows and in this manner I satisfied my hunger. **(Upamanyu)**”
2. Black clouds appeared in the sky and it started raining in torrents. The teacher Dhaumya was worried that the water may not break the embankment and overflow the fields of paddy. His disciple ..... laid himself along the embankment of the field in order to stop the water from overflowing. **(Āruṇi)**

## Love of friends and brothers

The moment, Lord Kṛṣṇa, who reigns over the heart of the devotees, heard the name of his friend from the door-keeper, he ran bare-footed towards the door and embraced Sudāmā. He burst out weeping and said,

“O, friend! You have suffered profusely all these days; where did you stay all along and why didn't you come to me earlier?”

Brotherly love of Rama and Lakṣmaṇa is worth emulating. Rāma loved his brother even more than his father and he said,

“Had I known that I would lose my beloved brother during my stay in the forest, I might have disobeyed even my father's words and had not come to the forest. One can find son, wife and wealth time and again but it is impossible to find real brother again. O, brother! Think over this and get up.”

Let us look at the inspiring episodes from the lives of those who are source of our inspiration.

### Fill in the Blanks :

1. Rana Pratap was being chased by the enemy soldiers. There was hardly gap of an inch between the Rana's head and the enemy swords. But see, what happened? In the blink of an eye the arm of the enemy soldier along with the sword was chopped off and the head was cut off from the trunk. The name of his brother who saved him like this was .....  
(Shakti Singh)
2. Rana Pratap was surrounded by the enemies when he was all alone. In order to save himself from them Rana crossed a rivulet riding 'Chetak', when his horse 'Chetak' fell down dead. But his brother ..... gave him his horse and thus saved his life from the enemies.  
(Shakti Singh)
3. It was ..... who ate his friend Sudama's rice with great love and affection.  
(Lord Kṛṣṇa)

4. O'Son! Perhaps Rāma is going to the forest because of your good fortune only, otherwise there seems no other reason for this. This is perhaps the fruit of all your virtues." After getting permission from mother Sumitrājī, ..... proceeded with Rāma to the forests. **(Lakṣmana)**
5. Taking his unconscious brother who was hit by Śaktī in his lap, ..... vowed that he will not return to Ayodhyā without his younger brother. **(Śrī Rāma)**
6. .... declined to become king and placed the wooden Sandals of his brother ..... on the throne in order to guide him to run the administration. **(Bharata, Śrī Rāma)**

### Qualities of an ideal child

These are virtues that must be there in a child. Fill in the blanks :

1. Should rise ..... the Sun-rise. **(before)**
2. Touch the ..... of his parents after rising in the morning. **(feet)**
3. Should ..... the teeth. **(brush)**
4. Should ..... and ..... daily. **(bathe, pray to God)**
5. Should take ..... daily to keep the body fit. **(exercise)**
6. Always wear ..... **(clean clothes)**
7. Should ..... the teachers. **(respect)**
8. Must ..... the parents. **(obey)**
9. Must speak ..... with everyone. **(sweetly)**
10. Must have relations with ..... students. **(good)**
11. Must read ..... of great men. **(life stories)**

12. Should remain on the forefront in doing .....  
deeds. (benevolent)
13. Must read good songs and story .....  
(books)
14. Should water the ..... plant known as  
mother plant (Basil)
15. Must look after the welfare of all the living beings so  
he must feed a loaf of bread to ..... and flour  
to the ..... (cow, ants)

## The Sixteen Sacraments

As the jewels like diamond etc. when dug out of the mine, are covered with soil but after they are whetted, their dirt is removed and they start shining, in the same manner after performing sixteen sacraments, human beings become strong, physically and mentally as well.

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What is sacrament?  
(It is the process through which terrestrial as well as celestial life is purified.)
2. How many major sacraments are there? (Sixteen)
3. Name the sixteen rites?
  - A. 1. Conception (Garbhādhāna)
  2. Ceremony to beget a male child. (Puñsavana)
  3. Ceremony for healthy delivery. (Simāntonnayana)
  4. Ceremony on child-birth. (Jātakarma)
  5. Ceremony of Naming. (Nāmakarana)
  6. Exit ceremony. (Niṣkramana)
  7. Giving cereal-made food to infant. (Annaprāśana)
  8. Tonsure ceremony (Mundana)
  9. Piercing the ear (Kaṇavedhana)
  10. Sacred thread ceremony (Upanayana)

11. Initiation in the Vedic Studies (Vedārambha)
  12. Convection (Samāvartana)
  13. Marriage (Vivāha)
  14. Dwelling in the jungle (Vānaprastha)
  15. Renunciation (Saṅnyāsa)
  16. Funeral ceremony (Antyeṣṭi)
4. Name the ceremony after which the child is taken outside the home for the first time.  
(Exit or Niṣkramaṇa)
5. Name the ceremony when the cereal made food is given first to infant.  
(Annaprāśana)
6. Name the rite in which the child wears the sacred thread and enters the stage of Celibacy (Brahmacarya Āsarama) or starts his education.  
(Upanayan)

## 5. Our Glorious History

### Indian Method of Calculating Time

You look at your watch and calculate time in seconds, minutes and hours. It is the western method of calculating time. Indian thinkers have calculated time in terms of 'Pala' and Ghaṛīs. Let us examine our method of calculating time :  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Pal = 1 minutes, 60 Pal = 24 minutes = 1 Gharī/Ghaṭikā/Ghaṭī,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Ghaṭī = 1 hour, 60 Ghaṭī = 24 hours or one day and night, 30 days = 1 month, 12 months = 1 year.

### The Story of Ramayana

Lord Rāma is present everywhere; who does not know him, he was the best of human beings. His life story is described in Rāmāyana.

### Do you know that —

1. Rāmāyana was written by the first poet .....  
(Vālmīki)
2. Rāmāyana has been written in ..... (Sanskrit)
3. The name of Lord Rāma's father was .....  
and his mother's name was.....  
(Daśratha, Kausalyā)
4. Shri Rāma went to forests for .....  
years to obey the orders of his father. (14 Fourteen )
5. Brave ..... went to bring Sanjīvanī for  
unconscious Lakṣmana. (Hanumāna)
6. Shri Rāma gave away the kingdom of Laṅkā to  
..... after conquering that land. (Vibhīṣana)
7. .... built a bridge on the sea to cross it.  
(Nala and Nīla)
8. Lava and Kuśa were sons of ..... (Śri Rāma)
9. Lava and Kuśa were born in .....  
(Vālmīki hermitage)
10. Rāmāyana is available now in other languages as  
well –
  - (a) Kamba Rāmāyaṇa in Tamil
  - (b) Kṛitvāsa Rāmāyaṇa in Bangla
  - (c) Ranganatha Rāmāyaṇa in Telugu
  - (d) Torve Rāmāyaṇa in Kannaḍa
  - (e) Adhyātma Rāmāyaṇa in Malayālam
  - (f) Barvai Rāmāyaṇa in Hindi

### Stories of Patriots

The life of patriots is dedicated to the nation. They sacrifice every comfort of their lives for the motherland.

For the patriots, motherland is only their god and goddess; that is why such songs are sung –

“सुन्दरियों ने जहाँ देश-हित, जौहर-व्रत करना सीखा,  
स्वतंत्रता के लिए जहाँ, बच्चों ने भी मरना सीखा।  
वहीं जा रहा पूजा करने, लेने सतियों की पद-धूल,  
वहीं हमारा दीप जलेगा, वहीं चढ़ेगा माला-फूल॥

(Śyama Nārāyana Pāndey)

“Where the ladies perform Jauhar (death by jumping into fire) for the country, where the children learnt to die for the sake of freedom: I am going to that very land to touch the dust from the foot prints of Saṭīs, I will light the prayer lamp there and place garland and flowers at that place.

**Write the names of Patriots who —**

1. Did not accept the lordship of Akbar, rather chose to lead a hard life in the forests and life of starvation.  
(Maharana Pratap)
2. Who roared like a Lion in the Bijapur court and said, “I will not bow my head before a man of alien religion.”  
(Shivaji)
3. Who established a Hindu kingdom through the inspiration of Samarth Guru Rama Dāsa.  
(Chatrapati Shivaji)
4. In his childhood who threw the leaf-bowl full of sweets in the dustbin and said, “why should we celebrate the coronation of a foreigner?  
(Keshav Rao Hedgewar)
5. ‘A thoughtless life is like an animal.’ Who said this statement?  
(Mahatma Gandhi)
6. One who went to gallows at the very age of nineteen to free his motherland?  
(Khudi Ram Bose)

7. One who shot Sandaras dead who did lathi charge on Lala Lajpat Rai. **(Sardar Bhagat Singh)**
8. Who fought against the Britisher till the last breath and proved his name 'Azad' or Freeman? **(Chandra Shekhar Azad)**
9. Who called upon the Indians, "Give me your blood and I will give you freedom." **(Subhash chandra Bose)**
10. Name any Indian military officer who died during the Indo-China war of 1962. **(Brigadier Hoshiar Singh)**

### **The Sun of Freedom : Rana Partap**

Blessed is the day of 9th May 1540 i.e. the Third day of the brighter half month of Jyeshtha in the vikram year 1597 when in the land of the braves was born Rana Pratap, the brightest jewel in the crown of Mewār. He ascended the throne of Mewār in the month of Phalguna on 15th śukla i.e. on March 3rd 1572. He represented the everlasting glory of Bappa Rawal and was the symbol of elegance and undying valour and honor of Rajputs. By that time most of the Rajput Chieftains had presented themselves in the court of crafty emperor Akbar. Many had established relations with him by marrying their daughters to him. Pratap was the only Rajput Chief who represented the dignity and valour of the Rajputs and laid down his life for freedom and dharma. He will always be remembered in this world as one who fought against slavery or subjugation and injustice.

On 18th June 1576 a pitched battle was fought between the armies of Rana Partap and Akbar's military commander Man Singh in the battle field of Haldi Ghati. Today this place has become a sacred place of holy sacrifice of Raptana. Even the beloved horse of Maharana, Chetak, laid down his life to save Rana, at this

place. After this battle Rana left Chittore and started living in the forests. He ate bread made out of the grass, lived in the stony caves of Aravali mountains, yet did not accept the subjugation of Akbar. Maharana took a solemn vow that till he freed his country, he will sleep on earth, will not take meals in the silver or gold utensils and will not live in the palaces. Rana Partap lived upto his solemn pledge to the last.

Bhama shah, the glory of Mewar, provided him with ample financial help and with that Rana re-organized the army. Except the fort of Chittore he captured all other forts again. He made Udaipur his capital. Rana, a symbol of our dharma and self-rule breathed his last on 29th Jan, 1597 i.e. on Māgh Śukla 11 in the Vikrami Samvat 1653.

Therefore it is proclaimed in folk tales of Rajasthan ..... ‘O mother, give birth to a son like Rana Partap. Akbar used to get up in his sleep as if he has seen a serpent under his pillow in his form.’”

## Child Revolutionaries

Independence does not come automatically. It is the result of visionaries who sacrificed everything for the freedom of the nation and made this vision of independence a reality. Some of them were mere children standing on the first door-step of their lives who sacrificed themselves at the altar of motherland in order to uphold the ideal that “Mother and Motherland is superior to the heaven itself.” Their names have been written in golden letters on the shining pages of history. Let us remember those revolutionaries.

(a) **Mohammad Ismail** : This brave boy sacrificed his life at the tender age of seven while shouting the slogan ‘Inquilab Zindabad’ as ‘Long live the revolution,’ in Jallianwala Bagh at Amritsar.

- (b) **Sita Ram and Dhondhi Santu** : These twelve year old scheduled caste boys belonging to Mangrol village of Sangli district in Maharashtra sacrificed their lives while saving the villagers from the oppression of the Britishers.
- (c) **Bacchan Prasad, Chhatu Giri and Jhagru Sah** : They belonged to Seeven district of Bihar. At the mere age of 12 they sacrificed their lives while hoisting the Tricolor on the Seevan courts during the Quit India Movement of 1942.
- (d) **Bishan Singh Kuka** : Brave Kukas launched an agitation against the Britishers to protect the cows from the butchers. Sixty eight Kukas were arrested and among them was a boy of thirteen year named Bishan Singh Kuka. When Lord Koven used fowl language against the Guru , this boy plucked the beard of that Englishman, Kowen. For this, his both hands were chopped off and in this manner one more boy sacrificed his life at the altar of his motherland.
- (e) **Kalibai** : A thirteen year old girl from Dungarpur in Rajasthan fought against the Britishers and laid down her life while rescuing her two teachers namely Nana Bhaiji and Senga Bhaiji, from the clutches of Britishers.
- (f) **Baji Rawat** : A child of thirteen years, belonging to Neelkanthpur village of Orissa, who refused to carry the British soldier on his father's boat to the other bank of the river and became a victim of the cruelty of the British offices.

## Contribution of the Tribal People

- (a) **Birsa Munda** : He was born on 15 November 1875 in a village Unnihat in Jharkhand. He fought against the Britishers from 1899 to 1900. The Munda warriors gave the proof of their ardent valour. The stories of their bravery in this struggle against aliens are still sung and recited in Munda families. Munda had given a clarion call to all the Munda tribal's in 1845 not to pay land revenue and also to refuse to surrender to forced labour.
- (b) **Young Boy Duddha** : Duddha was a Bhil boy. His father was a valiant soldier of the army of Maharana Pratap. Once his mother gave him two loaves to eat. He started to cross thick forests to offer these loaves to the seven days hungry children of Rana Pratap. On his way the enemy troops chopped off his right hand but undeterred he continued his journey and delivering the breads to the Rana Pratap, he could not utter any word. Thus the whole credit of the Victory of Kumbhalgarh goes to his valiant Bhil Boy, He became immortal in history.

## 6. The World as one Family

According to the views of the Ṛṣis, human beings inhabit this earth like a family. Atharva Veda pronounces :

जनं बिभ्रती बहुधा विवाचसं,

नानाधर्माणं पृथिवी यथौकसम् । ( अथर्ववेद 12.1.45 )

Hindu philosophy of life is based upon Vedic culture. This is the oldest philosophy of life. This philosophy of life has given the world true knowledge. Many cultures of the world have originated from it. The human race has come

into being from the Āryan race of this land. So, India has been the land which inspired the whole world.

### Great personalities who left their stamp on the world.

1. **Kapila** : He is the primeval founder of the principle of evolution of world who explained in clear terms the concept of inert energy. Writer of the book titled 'Ṣaṣṭhitantra'. He was born about 5000 years ago.
2. **Mahātmā Buddha** : He was the earliest exponent of humanism. He was a strong believer in non-violence and the founder of eight fold path. Founder of Baudha religion.
3. **Aristotle** : He was a great Greek philosopher and literary person of 4th cent. B.C., who was the disciple of Plato and teacher of Alexander. He is known to be the first scientist and political thinker of western world. There is no branch of knowledge in Europe, the seeds of which are not found in his writings.
4. **Vivekananda** : Vivekananda was a man who gave a new lease of life to Hindu society and was a fierce patriot. Born in the 19th century he was an unprecedented personality of his age. In the Parliament of Religions in Chicago in America, he showed the superiority of Indian culture by addressing the audience as 'Brothers and Sisters of America.'

### Sects and Creeds

Name of the Sect/Creed Founder/Great man

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Arya Smaj | Swami Dyananada |
| 2. Islam     | Hazrat Mohammad |
| 3. Juadism   | Hazrat Musa     |
| 4. Buddhism  | Mahātmā Buddha  |

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 5. Sikhism      | Guru Nanak Dev ji   |
| 6. Christianity | (Jesus) Lord Christ |
| 7. Parsees      | Zurathustra         |
| 8. Jainism      | Mahāvīra Svamī      |

Memorise a few quotes regarding the Oneness of Mankind —

1. एक स्मात् प्रसूयते जन्तुः – Means, All living beings are born of one.
2. रूपं रूपं प्रतिरूपो बभूव – Means, God has manifested himself in all the forms. (Rg.veda Octavo, 4/A-7/ Sec.33, Sloka – 18)
3. तुका म्हने चाले एका चिऐ सत्ते – Means, All are moved by One Reality. Saint Tuka Ram.
4. हे विश्वचि माझे घरा ऐसी मती जयाची स्थिर किं बहुला चराचरा। आपणचि जाहला – Saint Jnanesvara Maharaj says this whole universe is my home, whosoever believes in. This maxim with unflinched intellect, he holds the whole living and non-livings as God. Simiarly he treats himself as epitome of God.

## 7. The Shining Tradition of Indian Sciences

### Indian Scientists

1. **Āryabhatta** : He was born in 476 AD at Kusumpur in Bihar. He was the inventor of Trignometry in Mathematics and the first user of ( $\pi$ ) pie. Āryabhatta was the first person to prove that the earth was round and revolving on its axes; it also revolves around the Sun. Sun and Moon eclipses are caused by the shadows of earth or the moon. He calculated the proportion of circumference and diameter of a circle

to be  $22/7$  and used it. After sometime it was caculated to  $(\pi)$  pie.

2. **Chandrashekhhar Venkataraman** : He was the first Asian scientist to be awarded the noble prize in Physics. He was the discoverer of 'Raman effect' which says that "In the spectrum the light is spread by different objects. There are different colours, which are not in the original light." This discovery is known as "Raman effect".
3. **Dhanavantri** was the founder of Āyurvijñāna. One of the fourteen jewels churned out of the ocean. Specialised in treating the diseases through Āyurveda system of Medicines.

### The Ancient Indian Chemists and their Books

- Nāgārjuna : Rasa Ratnākara ;  
Kakṣaputatantra;  
Ārogya Manjarī;  
Yogasāra; Yogāṣṭaka.
- Govindācārya : Rasarṇava
- Ramachandra : Rasendre Cintāmaṇi
- Vāgbhaṭṭa : Rasa Ratna Samuccaya.
- Yashodhara : Rasa Prakāśa Sudhākara
- Soma Dev : Rasendra Chudāmaṇi

### Āyurveda

Que. What is the fundamental principle of Āyurveda?

Ans The basic principle of Āyurveda is that whatever exists in the cosmos is there in the body as well. According to this, whatever exists in the outer world that is present in the human body also. In the outer world the Sun symbolize heat and the Moon is the symbol of coolness. The air is the carrier of heat as

well cold. In the same manner in the human body there is 'Pitta' for heat and 'Cough' for cold and in order to carry them both, there is wind or air.

Que What are the three disorders and what are their functions?

Ans Vāta (wind), Pitta (heat) and Cough (cold) are together known as triple disorders. When these are present in equal proportion in the body, they denote health and when their balance is disturbed, they cause diseases.

Que What are the mental virtues and disorders ?

Ans 'Sattva' is known as mental virtue and 'Rajas' and 'Tamas' are known as mental disorders.

Que. What is the benefit of pasting sandal on forehead?

Ans. Due to its cooling effects, it activates the central nervous system and also makes the brain and eyes more active.

## **Sacred and Medicinal Plants**

1. **Neem** : All the parts of Neem tree viz. flowers, fruit, skin, root and leaves and used in the form of medicine. Neem has special quality of blood purification. Liquid Pesticide is prepared by boiling its leaves.
2. **Turmeric** : Growing in the form of root, this plant is used in the form of juice and powder. At the time of performing rituals, the use of this is considered auspicious. This is anti-biotic.

### **Questions and Answers :**

Q1. Where is Thumba situated? Why is it famous?

Ans. It is in Kerala and is famous for Rocket launching station.

Q2. Why is Shrinivasa Ramanujam famous?

Ans. He is known as a great Mathematician.

Q3. Why was Dr. C.V. Raman awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930?

Ans. He was awarded Nobel Prize in Physics for discovering 'Raman Effect'.

Q4. What is the source of Solar Energy?

Ans. The Sun.

Q5. How do we find the age of a tree?

Ans. As the tree grows old, its trunk and branches become thick. A coating of cells increases in the cambium every year. Every coating makes a circle. By counting these circle one can calculate the age of the tree. The circles become thicker in the year when it rains hard.

Q6. Who was the eminent atomic scientist in ancient India?

Ans. Maharisi Kaṇāda.

### **Inspiring Episode from the Life of a Scientist**

Dr. Satyendra Nath Basu was very rigid in his principles and conventions, but in his personal life how simple, tranquil, modest and unassuming he was, is proved by an event that happened in Viswa Bharati. Once Dr. Radha Krishnan went to Shanti Niketan. Dr. Satyendra Nath Basu (Bose Einstein Statistics) was the Vice-Chancellor of Vishwa Bharati (Shanti Niketan). His welcome was arranged in the assembly hall. Dr Basu went to assembly hall in a Rickshaw. On reaching the assembly hall, the guard asked him what was his name and he replied, "Satyen". The guard signalled him to sit among the ordinary invitees. He did not lose the calm of his mind and did not say anything. But Dr. Radha

Krishnan saw him and came down from the stage and took him along on the stage.

## **Space Science**

### **Conquest of Moon Mission -**

On October 22, 2008 Bhārata launched its first unmanned craft towards moon, which is named Chandra-Yan-I. It was on 14th November 2008 at 8.31 P.M. that it planted and unfurled Tricolour flag on the surface of moon.

### **Mars Expedition : -**

This is an ambitious project of Indian Science Research Organisation : Under this project a satellite was launched successfully from Satish Dhawan Space Centre Shrihari Kota, Andhra Pradesh, by Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) on 5 November 2013 at 2 hours 38 Minutes P.M. for revolving in the orbit of Mars. With this achievement, India inscribed its name in the group of those nations who have sent their satellites to Mars. Although 2/3 of the campaigns to explore Mars planet have remained unsuccessful, yet on reaching in the orbit of Mars on 24th September 2014, India has become the country to achieve success in first attempt. Besides, this is the cheapest mission of sending a satellite to Mars.

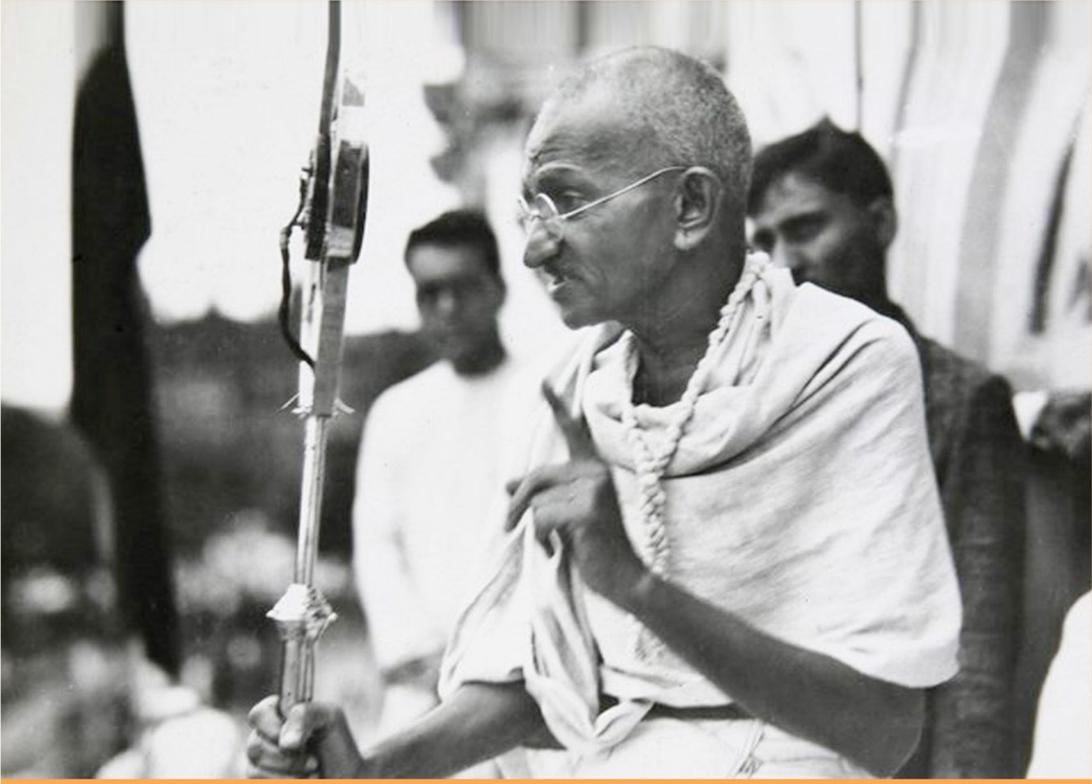
## **Chapter-8. General Knowledge**

## **Chapter-9. Our National Heroes**

**Due to Corona period, no questions will be asked from both the above chapters in the session 2020-21, so they have been removed.**

## Type of Questions

- Q.1 Fill in the blanks.
- Q.2 Answer in one word.
- Q.3 Tell the names of mother, father, wife, husband, Mentor, disciple.
- Q.4 Who said / who said to whom.
- Q.5 Linking the name and place with the word of the question.
- Q.6 Who had/has the relation or belonged to which place.
- Q.7 Whose pen name / short name is this.
- Q.8 Tell its ancient / modern name.
- There shall be four options in above mentioned questions.
- Out of these one shall be correct and three shall be incorrect.
- From every heading, there shall be multi-choice objective questions of prescribed marks.
- It shall be compulsory to have questions from every heading.



"I will give you a talisman. Whenever you are in doubt or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test :

Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to Swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions? Then you will find your doubts and yourself melting away."

*Source : Mahatma Gandhi [Last Phase, Vol. II (1958), P. 65]*



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