



Department of Sanskrit
University of Delhi
Under Graduate Course for Sanskrit
B.A. (Hons.) Under UGCF-22

SEMESTER IV

DSE-5: Environmental Awareness in Sanskrit Literature

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Prerequisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/Practice		
Environmental Awareness in Sanskrit Literature	04	3	1	0	Semester II Passed	Working Knowledge of Sanskrit

Learning Objectives

The main objective of this course is to make the students acquainted with the basic concepts of Indian Environmental Science and salient features of environmental awareness as reflected in Vedic and Classical Sanskrit literature. The National culture of every country depends on its environmental and climatic conditions and human behaviour towards natural resources. Nature- friendly thoughts reflected in Sanskrit Literature have benefited the human race for long. Many religious practices were framed by ancient thinkers as a tool to protect nature and natural resources.

Learning outcomes

After completing this course, students will realize themselves to be a part of Nature and Nature, intern, belongs to all creatures. They will learn to be a more careful about the utilization and preservation of natural resources. This will make them better citizens of the world.

Detailed Syllabus

Unit I **12Hrs**

Science of Environment: Definition, Scope and Modern Crises:

Modern Challenges and Crises of Environment: Global warming, Climate change, Ozone depletion, explosively increase in Pollution, Decrease in underground water level, River



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pollution, Deforestation in large scale. Natural calamities such as flood, draft and earthquakes.

Environmental Consciousness in Sanskrit Literature:

Concept of 'Mother Earth' and worship of Rivers in Vedic literature; Brief survey of environmental issues such as protection and preservation of mother nature, planting trees, and water preservation techniques as propounded in the Sanskrit Literature. Buddhist and Jain concepts of ecology, protection of trees, love for animals and birds.

Unit II

12Hrs

Environment Awareness in Vedic Literature:

Environmental Issues and Eco-system in Vedic Literature

Divinity to Nature, Co-ordination between all natural powers of universe; Equivalent words for Environment in Atharvaveda: 'Vṛtvṛta' (12.1.52), 'Abhivarah,' (1.32.4.), 'Avṛtah' (10.1.30), 'Parivrita' (10.8.31); **five basic elements of universe covered by environment :** Earth, Water, Light, Air, and Ether. (Aitareya Upaniṣad 3.3)

Three constituent elements of environment: Jala (water), Vāyu (air), and Oṣadhi (plants) (Atharvaveda, 18.1.17).

Natural sources of water in five forms: rain water (Divyah), natural spring (Sravanti), wells and canals (Khanitrimah), lakes (Svayamjah) and rivers (Samudrararthah) (Rgveda, 7.49.2).

Environment Preservation in Vedic Literature:

Five elementary sources of environment preservation: *Parvat* (mountain),

Soma (water), Vayu (air), Parjanya (rain) and Agni (fire) (Atharvaveda, 3.21.10); Environment Protection from Sun (Rgveda, 1.191.1-16, Atharvaveda, 2.32.1-6, Yajurveda, 4.4, 10.6); Congenial atmosphere for the life created by the Union of herbs and plants with sun rays (Atharvaveda, 5.28.5); Vedic concept of Ozone-layer Mahat ulb' (Rgveda, 10.51.1; Atharvaveda, 4.2.8); Importance of plants and animals for preservation of global ecosystem; (Yajurveda, 13.37); Eco friendly environmental organism in Upaniṣads (Brhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad, 3.9.28, Taittiriya Upaniṣad, 5.101)

Unit III

12Hrs

Environment Awareness in Puranas and Classical Sanskrit Literature:

Environmental Awareness and Tree plantation:

Planting of Trees in Purāṇas as a pious activity (Matsya Purāṇa, 59.159; 153.512 ; Varāha Purāṇa 172. 39), Various medicinal trees to be planted in forest by king (śukranīti, 4.58-62)
Plantation of new trees and preservation of old trees as royal duty of king (Arthaśāstra,



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2.1.20); Punishments for destroying trees and plants (*Arthaśāstra*,3.19), Plantation of trees for recharging under-ground water(*Bṛhatsaṁhitā*, 54.119)

Environmental Awareness and Water management:

Various types of water canels 'Kulyā' for irrigation : canal originated from river 'Nādimatr mukha kulyā', canal originated from near-by mountain 'Parvataparsva vartini kulyā', canal originated from pond,'Hrdasrta kulyā, **Preservation of water resources** 'Vāpi –kūpa – tadāga' (*Agnipuraṇas*,209-2;*V.Ramayana*,2.80.10-11); **Water Harvesting system in Arthaśāstra (2.1.20-21); Underground Water Hydrology in Bṛhatsaṁhitā (Dakāgalādhyāya, chapter-54);**

Unit IV **09Hrs**

Universal Environmental Issues in the Literature of Kalidasa:

Eight elements of Environment and concept of 'Aṣṭamūrti' Siva (*Abhijñānaśākuntalam*); Preservation of forest,water resources, natural resources; protection of animals, birds and plant in Kalidasa's works, Environmental awareness in *Abhijñānaśākuntalam* Drama, Eco- system of Indian monsoon in *Meghdūt*, Seasonal weather conditions of Indian sub-continent in *rtusamhara*, Himalayan ecology in *Kumārasaṁbhava*, Oceanography in *Raghuvarīśa* (canto-13).

Essential/recommended readings

1. कौटिलीय अर्थशास्त्र –हिन्दी अनुवाद –उदयवीर शास्त्री, मेहरचन्द लछमनदास, दिल्ली,1968.
2. बृहत्संहिता- वराहमिहिर विरचित, हिन्दी अनुवाद- बलदेव प्रसाद मिश्र, खेमराज श्रीकृष्णदास प्रकाशन, मुम्बई.
3. यजुर्वेद- हिन्दी अनुवाद सहित, सातवलेकर, श्रीपाद दामोदर, पारडी
4. शुक्रनीति – हिन्दी अनुवाद, ब्रह्मशंकर मिश्र, चौखम्बा संस्कृत सीरीज, वाराणसी, 968.
5. श्रीमद्वाल्मीकिरामायण – हिन्दी अनुवाद सहित, (सम्पा०) जानकी नाथ शर्मा, (1-2 भाग) गीताप्रेस, गोरखपुर.
6. ठाकुर, आद्यादत्त- वेदों में भारतीय संस्कृति, हिन्दी समिति, लखनऊ,1967.
7. तिवारी, मोहन चन्द –अष्टाचक्रा अयोध्या: इतिहास और परम्परा,उत्तरायण प्रकाशन,दिल्ली, 2006.



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8. विघालंकार, सत्यकेतु – प्राचीन भारतीय शासनव्यवस्था और राजशास्त्र, सरस्वती सदन, मसूरी, 1968.
9. सहायकचशिवस्वरूपकच प्राचीन भारत का सामाजिक एवं आर्थिक इतिहास, मोतीलाल बनारसीदास, दिल्ली, 2012 कौटिलीय अर्थशास्त्र –हिन्दी अनुवाद –उदयवीर शास्त्री, मेहरचन्द लछमनदास, दिल्ली, 1968.
10. बृहत्संहिता- वराहमिहिर विरचित, हिन्दी अनुवाद- बलदेव प्रसाद मिश्र, खेमराज श्रीकृष्णदास प्रकाशन, मुम्बई.
11. यजुर्वेद- हिन्दी अनुवाद सहित, सातवलेकर, श्रीपाद दामोदर, पारडी
12. शुक्रनीति – हिन्दी अनुवाद, ब्रह्मशंकर मिश्र, चौखम्बा संस्कृत सीरीज, वाराणसी, 968.
13. श्रीमद्वाल्मीकिरामायण – हिन्दी अनुवाद सहित, (सम्पाद) जानकी नाथ शर्मा, (1-2 भाग) गीताप्रेस, गोरखपुर.
14. ठाकुर, आधादत- वेदों में भारतीय संस्कृति, हिन्दी समिति, लखनऊ, 1967.
15. विद्यालंकार, सत्यकेतु – प्राचीन भारतीय शासनव्यवस्था और राजशास्त्र, सरस्वती सदन, मसूरी, 1968.
16. सहायकचशिवस्वरूपकच प्राचीन भारत का सामाजिक एवं आर्थिक इतिहास, मोतीलाल बनारसीदास, दिल्ली, 2012
17. अग्निपुराण - हिंदी अनुवाद तारिणीश इ़ा एवं घनश्याम त्रिपाठी, हिंदी साहित्य सम्मलेन, इलाहाबाद, 1998
18. ईशोपनिषद - गीता प्रेस, गोरखपुर संस्करण
19. तैत्तिरीयोपनिषद - ईशादिद्शोपनिषद, दिल्ली, 1964
20. बृहदारण्यकोपनिषद - (108 उपनिषद) ज्ञानखंड, सम्याद श्री एम. शर्मा, शांति कुंज, हरिद्वार, 1997
21. ऐतरेयोपनिषद - (108 उपनिषद) ज्ञानखंड, सम्याद श्री एम. शर्मा, शांति कुंज, हरिद्वार, 1997
22. मत्स्यपुराण - आनंदाश्रय संस्कृत सीरीज, पूजा, 1907



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23. ओङ्जा, डी.डी., विज्ञान और वेड, साइंटिफिक पब्लिशर्स, जोधपुर, 2005
24. द्विवेदी, कपिल देव, वेदों में विज्ञान, विष्याति अनुसंधान परिषद, यदोई 2004
25. पंडा, पी. के. , कालिदास का साहित्य आधुनिक परिप्रेक्ष्य में, विद्यानिधि प्रकाशन, दिल्ली - 2009
26. सेमवाल, श्री कृष्णा (सम्याऽ), 'संस्कृत वाङ्मये कृषि विज्ञानम' दिल्ली संस्कृत अकादमी, 2006
27. **Arthashastra of Kautilya**—(ed.) *Kangale, R.P. Delhi, Motilal Banarasidas 1965*
28. Atharvaveda samhita.(2 Vols — (Trans.) R.T.H. Griffith, Banaras 1968.
29. Ramayana of Valmiki (3 Vols)— (Eng. Tr.) H.P. Shastri, London, 1952-59.
30. **Rgveda samhita (6 Vols)**— (Eng. Tr.) H.H. Wilson, Bangalore, 1946
31. Bhandarkar, RG— *Vaishnavism, Saivism and Minor Religious Systems*, Indological Book House, Varanasi, 1965
32. **Das Gupta, SP**— *Environmental Issues for the 21st Century*, Amittal Publications, New Delhi, 2003
33. **Dwivedi, OP, Tiwari BH** — *Environmental Crisis and Hindu Religion*, Gitanjali Publishing House, New Delhi, 1987
34. **Dwivedi, OP** — *The Essence of the Vedas*, Visva Bharati Research Institute, Gyanpur, Varanasi ,1990
35. **Pandya, SmtaP.** — *Ecological Renditions in the Scriptures of Hinduism – I (article)* *Bulletin of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture*.
36. **Kiostermair, Klaus**—*Ecology and Religion: Christian and Hindu Paradigms (article)* *Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies*, Butler university Libraries, Vol.6,1993

**Examination scheme and mode: Subject to directions from the Examination
Branch/University of Delhi from time to time**