

The Indian Knowledge System – A holistic and Human System of Knowledge

In the tradition, we have been able to see that to ensure living with continuous happiness for one and for all, there is a need to

1. Develop the right understanding of the harmony at all levels of human existence – from self to entire nature/existence and
2. The clarity of how we can live with this harmony at each level of our living, i.e. individual, family, society and nature/existence

A knowledge system which ensures right understanding and clarity of living in harmony at all levels of human existence can be called a **holistic and humane knowledge system**.

Many cultures and civilisations over millennia have tried to evolve such knowledge systems.

The Indian culture and civilisation is one such example. India developed its knowledge system, tested it through practice, verified and improved it over thousands of years. As a result, the Indian Knowledge System is founded on the 'well-being of all' and seems to satisfy the requirement of a **holistic and humane knowledge system**.

It is in this context that we will make some study into the Indian Knowledge System, taking some specific examples, and try to see that it indeed qualifies for a **holistic and humane system of knowledge**. The specific examples will help in connecting to the basic principles.

This approach will also help us, in the long run, to see and appreciate the knowledge systems developed by various cultures and civilisations. It will help us to see the commonality amongst them. We will be able to develop a view of filling the gaps, of being mutually enriching, rather than to criticise or reject them.