

Rule - 1

The Source of Truth

The first (efficient) cause of all what is known through true knowledge and material science is GOD.

यो नः पिता जनिता यो धामानि वेद भुवनानि विश्वा ।

यो देवानां नामधा एक एव तं संप्रशनं भुवना यन्त्यन्या॥

Him who is our Protector, Progenitor, Ordainer,
Him who knows all places and beings.

Him who is the one Assignor of names to all entities—

Aye Him all else that is, points to - As the One Enquired About.

R. V X. 82. 3.

A Theistic Body —The first principle of the Arya Samaj is a declaration that the society which takes its stand primarily on it is before everything else a theistic body. Its belief in the existence of God is perfect. Neither atheism nor Agnosticism, nor even a tentative conviction in an imaginary Supreme Being has any chance of being countenanced by its members. The Arya Samajist believes that God is, just as he believes that he himself is and the Arya Samaj is.

The Sources of True Knowledge — The Arya Samaj stands for truth; its inspiration of truth is derived direct from God. Knowledge which is simply a realisation on our part of truth that exists in and outside us has its ultimate root in the All-knowing GOD. Along with our evanescent conceptions of what is true and what is not, there is a constant body of known truth which subsists in all ages and all climes. We may know it only imperfectly but the very fact that such truth exists implies that it

should be known. If there were no truth, our quest after it were fruitless. Our advancing knowledge in the spheres in which we seek to know truth, e.g. the sphere of physical sciences, is a proof that truth is. It exists independently of us. When we affirm the existence of truth, we indirectly affirm also the existence of its inevitable background, viz., consciousness in which truth alone can exist. If we cannot know it wholly, some Being, with powers of comprehension superior to ours, must know it. That Being is, according to the Arya Samaj, the we get our first prompting to, and glimpses of, truth. Our intuitive knowledge in yogic vision is derived direct from Him today, as was all knowledge at the beginning of human creation received from Him by the primeval Rishis = Saints.

The Facts of Existence — Knowledge has its basis in being, being, i.e., in its relational phase. In its last analysis, knowledge is a cognizance of relations, spacial and temporal, or in one word, physical, and more subtle than these spiritual, among beings and things that exist. Now these relations are not self-determined, but are subject to the initiation and control of the same All-knowledge Divinity. Not intelligent themselves, material substance or substances cannot fit themselves, as they are in actual fact found fitted, into an inter-related, intelligently laid out universe. Nor can souls of limited capacity, whether viewed severally or as all combined, order into being a world spacious beyond their joint comprehension. Objects, as they are known, that is, their mutual relations which have fashioned them into things out of the primary substance of which they are temporal and spacial manifestations, owe their being to the all-pervading intelligent activity of an omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent God. To use a technical philosophical term, we believe God to be the efficient cause, as distinguished from the material cause, of the universe.

Let us, for convenience's sake, call these relations facts, for such they surely are. These facts and their knowledge, which latter is simply a registration of those facts in consciousness, have their ultimate source in the same God. Thus ultimately allied at their very root, true facts and right knowledge correspond to each other perfectly. This is what makes the one true and the other right. The Arya Samaj hits at the very essence of truth by emphasising the fundamental correspondence between reality and knowledge. Being traced to its eternal source, viz., God, truth is, as it were, idolized. The God of the Arya Samaj is the God of truth. Our religion, thus, is conviction in, and quest after, Truth.