



VEDANTA PHILOSOPHY


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DEFINITION OF PHILOSOPHY

- Philosophy is the rational attempt to have a world view. In this sense it is the interpretation of life. It is mainly divided into two parts –
 - Western philosophy- It literally means love of wisdom.
 - Indian philosophy- It starts from sufferings & its ultimate goal is liberation.




Indian philosophy divided into two parts –

- Orthodox School(Astik)- Sankhya, Yoga, Nyaya, Vaishesika, Mimansa & Vedanta.
 - Heterodox School(Nastik)- Carvaka, Buddha & Jain.
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VEDANTA

The term Vedanta means in Sanskrit the 'conclusion'(anta) of the Vedas, the earliest sacred literature of India.

- Sankar's vedanta is called Advaita vedanta.
 - Ramanuja's vedanta is called visistadvaita vedanta.
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SANKARA'S THEORY OF BRAHMAN

Sankara is an advocate of Advaitism(Non-dualism) & he propounds his theory in his famous commentary on the Brahma sutra of Vadarayana known as 'Sarirak Bhasya' .

NATURE OF BRAHMA-

- Highest reality is non-dual.
- Brahma Satyam Jagat Mithya.
- Brahma & Atma are synonymous.
- Only the nirguna Brahma is the ultimate reality.



NATURE OF BRAHMA

EMPIRICAL VIEWPOINT

- God is empirical or practical reality.
- The root cause of creation is creator, sustainer & destroyer.
- God is object of worship.
- God is the lower absolute.
- God is describable.
- God is personal absolute.
- God is sagun & savisesa.
- God is the arbiter of the fruits of actions.

TRANSCENDENTAL VIEWPOINT

- Brahma is the transcendental reality.
- Brahma is not the creator, sustainer & destroyer.
- Brahma is not the object of worship.
- Brahman is the higher absolute.
- Brahman is indescribable
- Brahman is nirgun and nirvisesa.
- Brahman is not the arbiter of the fruits of action

PROOFS FOR THE EXISTANCE OF BRAHMAN

- Proofs from scriptures
- Etymological proof
- Psychological proof
- Teleological proof
- Regressus and infinitum by not admitting Brahman as the original cause
- The proof of immediate experience.