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VEDAS AS BASIS FOR SCIENCE -

A ■ u must read

The word Veda means knowledge and are the most sacred scriptures of Hinduism. The Vedas are also called Sruti meaning that was heard and revealed to the Seers and ascetics.

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UPAVEDAS

1. Artha-Veda-dealing with statecraft
2. Ayur-Veda- concerns medicine & health
3. Dhanur-Veda- discusses military science
4. Gandhrva-Veda- unfolds music and arts
5. Sthapatya-Veda- explains architecture

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1. ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPT IN THE VEDAS

The science of Vasthu Satra, which concerns with the layouts and the direction of building architecture and is hot current topic the world over, is traceable to at least the year 3000BC in the Vedas.

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The Gumbaz found on the mosques all over the world actually originated as the interlocking dome in the Stupa of the Buddhist architectural tradition in India.

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The building of huge structures without the use of any modern equipments actually tell the story of advanced feat in construction practices.

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2. MEDICINE & ITS RELEVANCE AS FOUND IN THE VEDAS

Methods of formulation, synthesis of drugs, proper mode of administering the drugs were adequately documented. "Saraha Samhitha" clearly stipulates rules for these and is part of Ayurveda.

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Even surgical procedures and implements are dealt in detail in the classic of Sushruta. The ancient formulations like "Kayakalpe" and "chyavanprash" astonish modern drug formulators.

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Blending of noble metals like gold, silver, and mercury with certain herbs and their administration has sound basis in modern medicine too. This could be traced to the present day practice of administering the metallic salts as micronutrients

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3. MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES IN THE VEDAS

It has been said that the introduction of zero or Shunya as it is called in India as a definite part of number system in an operational sense marks one of the most important contribution and development in mathematical sciences.

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Several stone columns erected in India by the King Ashoka in about 250 B.C contain preserved examples of the number system which are still in use. Similar Inscriptions are found in caves near Pune dating back to 100 B.C and Nasik dating back to 200 B.C.

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These earliest Indian numerals appear in a script called Brahmi. Medieval Indian mathematicians like Brahmagupta (seventh century), Mahavira(ninth century) and Bhaskara (twelfth century) made several important contributions and discoveries which were

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not known in Europe till renaissance. Some of their important contributions include import of positive and negative quantities, extracting square and cube roots and solving certain type indeterminate and quadratic equations.

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4. STUDY OF SPACE AND MILITARY RELATED CONCEPTS IN THE VEDAS

Dhanur Veda explains in great detail the organization of armed forces i.e. the military of the times. Well-defined rules have been laid out regarding armaments and warfare.

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There were also mention of missiles and other weapons in the literature. It is really amazing that conceptually the rules and arts are comparable to modern times.

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The strength of the army was measured in terms of Akroni or Akshauhini which is synonymous with that obtaining in modern parlance. There were also well planned traps known as "Viyuhas" to capture the enemy.

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These well defined strategies are given names based on their shapes like padma (lotus), chakra (circle), virichika (scorpion) etc

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Space- crafts are referred as pushpak vimanas_ in the literature and surprisingly their mode of take of exactly resembles that of modern aircraft.

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Eclipses are predicted well in advance of their occurrence and this clearly prove that astronomy and space science were prevailing at great heights.

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