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WHY ARE KRISHNA AND RAMA COLORED BLUE IN COMICS AND OTHER PICTORIAL REPRESENTATIONS. WE HAVE HEARD THE DESCRIPTION 'NEELA MEGHA SHYAMA', WAS THIS REALLY THEIR PHYSICAL APPEARANCE OR IS IT JUST POETIC IMAGINATION OR REAL ?



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THE COLOR WAS INDEED TRUE AND NOT POETIC IMAGINATION. NARAYANA IS APAARA, ANANTHA, AGADHA. SHRI RAMA AND SHRI KRISHNA ARE NONE OTHER THAN MAHA-VISHNU. JUST LIKE THE OCEAN AND THE SKY IS BLUE COLORED HAS NO END AND IS APAARA AND ANANTHA, AGADHA SRI KRISHNA AND SRI RAMA HAD THIS COLOR TO CONVEY THEIR INHERENT NATURAL PROPERTIES TO US. ANANTHATVA, APARATHVA, AGADHATVA... NORMAL HUMANS ARE BLACK, WHITE, BROWN BUT PARAMATMA IS NOT LIKE US. HE IS INDEED DIFFERENT. EXTRA INFORMATION : EXCERPTS FROM [HTTP://WWW.NATIONMASTER.COM/ENCYCLOPEDIA/KRISHNA](http://www.nationmaster.com/encyclopedia/Krishna) : "KRISHNA'S BODY IS THE COLOUR OF A ENCHANTINGLY BEAUTIFUL DARK RAINCLOUD. THE PHILOSOPHICAL BACKDROP FOR KRISHNA'S DARK BLUE SKIN IS THAT VISHNU, WHO IS ULTIMATELY INCARNATED AS KRISHNA, IS ALSO KNOWN AS NARAYANA. NARAYANA MEANS "BORN OF WATER." THIS IS BECAUSE WATER, SEEN AS THE BASE PRINCIPLE FOR LIFE AS WE KNOW IT ON EARTH, THE NOURISHER OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS ALIKE, THE VERY SUBSTANCE OF CYCLIC EXISTENCE, IS ESSENTIAL TO PRESERVATION. VISHNU, WHO IN AVATAR FORM COMES DOWN TO EARTH TO HELP PRESERVE DHARMA, IS EPITOMISED BY THE PRINCIPLE OF WATER, BEING HIMSELF THE GOD OF PRESERVATION. AS WATER IS COMMONLY SEEN AS BEING BLUE, AND VISHNU IS SAID TO SLEEP IN YOGA NIDRA, FLOATING ON COSMIC WATERS ON SHESHA (A SNAKE-GOD), IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT VISHNU'S REPRESENTATIONS ARE ALL BLUE. BY SYLLOGISM, IT TRANSFERRED TO HIS GREAT AVATAR, KRISHNA"

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WHAT IS DVAITA PHILOSOPHY? HOW IS IT DIFFERENT THAN OTHERS?



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THERE ARE 3 MAJOR PHILOSOPHIES ASSOCIATED WITH WHAT PEOPLE CALL HINDUISM :ADVAITA, VISHITA DVAITA AND DVAITA. THERE ARE MANY POINTS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE PHILOSOPHIES. THE MAIN ONE BEING THE END STATE OF THE SOUL. ADVAITA SAYS THE FINAL STATE IS ONE WITH GOD. DVI MEANS TWO. "DVAPYAM ITAM DVAITAM" BEING TWO OR SEPARATE IS WHAT DVAITA IS ALL ABOUT. VISHITA DVAITA PROPOSES ATTAINING A STATUS EQUAL TO GOD, IN OTHER WORDS NOT BECOME ONE WITH GOD, BUT ATTAIN A STATUS OF EQUALITY. ON THE OTHER HAND, DVAITA MEANS NO ONE-NESS, NO EQUALITY - EVER. THE FINAL ATTAINMENT STATE IS MOKSHA WHICH IS STILL DISTINCT AND DIFFERENT FROM GOD HIMSELF. PURNATHA OF SOUL IS DEFINED AS MOKSHA. ACCORDING TO DVAITA PHILOSOPHY, THERE ARE GRADATIONS OF LIVES. FIRST THERE IS GOD, THEN LAKSHMI HIS ETERNAL CONSORT... GARUDA ... SHEHSA AND EVENTUALLY JEEVAS. WE CAN COMPARE THESE PHILOSOPHIES AND SAY THAT THESE ARE LIKE THEORIES OF PROGRESSION IN RESEARCH....SUPPOSE A RESEARCHER SEES AN OBJECT FAR AWAY IN THE SKY AND SEES IT AS ONE SINGULAR OBJECT. ON FURTHER EXAMINATION, SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT FIND IT IS NOT JUST ONE, BUT THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO OBJECTS WHICH APPEAR AS ONE. ON FURTHER EXAMINATION YOU SEE NOT JUST TWO BUT SEVERAL OBJECTS REVOLVING AROUND A CENTRAL FORCE. THIS IS AN INDIVISIBLE SYSTEM BUT MANY DISTINCT SUB- SYSTEMS DEPENDENT ON THE CENTRAL FORCE. LIKewise, THE PHILOSOPHIES OF ADVAITA, VISHITA DVAITA AND DVAITA HAVE EVOLVED.

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WHAT IS BRAHMA-VISHNU-MAHESHWARA? AT THE SAME TIME WE SAY THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD.



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ONE GOD MEANS ONLY ONE SARVOTAMMA. ONE SUPREME GOD. FOR ONE COUNTRY THERE IS ONLY ONE PRESIDENT. THERE COULD BE MANY VICE-PRESIDENTS. JUST LIKE THERE IS ONLY SUPREME GOD. YOU CAN NAME HIM BY ANY NAME. BUT THERE IS ONLY ONE IDENTITY WHO IS SUPREME. YOU CAN CALL HIM VISHNU, SHIVA, RUDRA.... WHATEVER NAME YOU WANT TO USE IS UP TO YOU. VISHNU IS CONSIDERED SARVOTAMMA. ACCORDING TO DVAITA VISHNU IS SUPREME, HOWEVER YOU CAN ADDRESS HIM BY ANY NAME. BUT LORD SHIVA IS NOT THE SAME AS VISHNU. VISHNU IS THE ONLY SUPREME GOD AND ALL OTHER GODS ARE SUBSERVIENT TO SARVOTAMMA.

EXTRA COMMENTS:

"AKASHAT PATITAM TOYAM YATHA GACHATI SAGARAM, SARVA DEVA NAMASKARAH KESHAVAM PRATI GATCHATI". JUST LIKE ALL THE WATER POURING FROM THE SKIES REACHES THE OCEAN IN ONE FORM OR OTHER, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHICH GOD WE SALUTE, THE NAMASKARA (SALUTATION) REACHES KESHAVA (ANOTHER NAME FOR VISHNU) IN ONE FORM OR OTHER.

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MY 11 YEAR OLD SON ASKED WHICH IS THE BIBLE FOR US HINDUS. I WASN'T SURE TO TELL HIM IF BHAGAVAD GEETHA IS THE BOOK FOR HINDUS. ALSO, WHAT IS VEDA-VEDANTA-UPANISHAD ?



VEDAS ARE APOURSEHYA. VEDANTA MEANS UPANISHAD. VEDANAAM, ANTAHA NIRNAYA.. VEDANTA. ANTA MEANS END. CREAM OF VEDAS IS UPANISHAD. VEDA MEANS CHATUR-VEDA. BHAVAD GITA IS BHASHYA OF VEDA. THE LANGUAGE OF VEDAS ARE DIFFICULT. VEDAS ARE INTUITIONS.. THEY ARE NOT COMPOSITIONS, THEY WERE NOT INVENTED BUT JUST DISCOVERED. OTHER SCRIPTURES WERE COMPOSED TO NARRATE THE SAME MESSAGE. VEDAS ARE UDGRAS...GITA IS ALSO LIKE THAT A COMMENTARY OF VEDA.

EXTRA COMMENTS:

I THINK IT IS UNFAIR TO BOTH CHRISTIANITY AND HINDUISM IF WE COMPARE ONE-TO-ONE IN TERMS OF JUST BOOKS. HOWEVER, IF SOMEONE WERE TO ASK ME WHAT IS THAT SINGLE BOOK WHICH COVERS MOST OF SANATHANA-DHARMA PRINCIPLES(AGAIN THE WORD HINDU IS COINED WORD AND DATES BACK TO FINITE TIME) AND ALL THE HISTORY WHICH COVERS THEM WOULD BE THE "SRIMAD BHAGAVATAM" - COMPOSED BY MAHARSHI VEDAVYASA, ANOTHER INCARNATION OF VISHNU.

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HOW LONG AGO WERE VEDAS FORMED?



VEDAS ARE BEGINNING-LESS. THEY ARE ETERNAL ... VEDAS ARE DISCOVERED BY RISHIS. VEDAS ARE INTUITIONS. ARE THEY MEMORIES GIVEN TO US DURING THE AGES.INTUTION MEANS MORE OF A SAAKSHI, WITHOUT MUCH PREPARATION YOU FIND SOMETHING AND REALIZE. YOU CAN CALL IT SAAKSHI.. CONSCIENCE THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH.

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DID ARYANS FIND VEDAS?



THIS ARYAN INVASION THEORY IS MORE OF A CREATION, RATHER WRONGLY DOCUMENTED HISTORY TO ATTAIN AND PROMOTE A CERTAIN POLITICAL STRUCTURE. THERE IS NOT MUCH TRUTH INTO IT. THIS WAS MORE OF A DIVISIVE THEORY BY PEOPLE WHO WROTE THE HISTORY. ARYAVARTHA IS JUST THE NAME OF A PLACE. THERE WAS NO RACIAL INVASION BY A SEPARATE RACE CALLED ARYANS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

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WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SIDDHARTA'S BUDDHISM AND HINDUISM. IT LOOKS SIMILAR BUT HOW IT IS DIFFERENT. ISN'T BUDHA CONSIDERED AN AVATARA OF VISHNU



BUDDHISM IS SHOONYAVADA. EVERYTHING COMES FROM ZERO, EVERYTHING ENDS IN ZERO. KSHANIKAVAADA – EVERY MOMENT EVERYTHING IS CHANGING, YOU ARE NOT THE SAME PERSON WHO YOU WERE A SECOND AGO ETC. HINDUISM AS WE CALL IT, DOES NOT ACCEPT SHOONYAVADA, KSHANIKAVADA. ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU CAN SEE BUDDHISM AS A COUNTER THEORY WITHIN HINDUISM TO BE BELIEVED AND ESTABLISHED WITH PRINCIPLES. YES BUDDHAVTARA IS CONSIDERED AS AN AVATARA OF VISHNU BUT THE PRINCIPLES PREACHED AS BUDDHISM ARE NOT FOLLOWED BY US.

EXTRA COMMENTS:

SRI VADIRAJA SWAMIJI HAS PRAISED BUDDHAVATARA IN HIS DASHAVATARA STUTI : [HTTP://WWW.DVAITA.ORG/HARIDASA/SONGS/VADIRAJA/DASH_STUTI.HTML](http://www.dvaita.org/haridasa/songs/vadiraja/dash_stuti.html) SEARCH FOR "BHUDDHAYA NAMA" ON THIS PAGE.

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VEDAS ARE WRITTEN IN SANSKRIT, HISTORIANS DATE SANSKRIT TO A CERTAIN DATE. SO HOW CAN WE CLAIM VEDAS ARE ETERNAL ?



ALL LANGUAGES ARE PERMANENT. SANSKRIT LANGUAGE IS ALSO TIMELESS, PERMANENT BECAUSE THE FORMAT, SYNTAX NEVER HAS CHANGED. ALL INDIAN LANGUAGES ARE ALSO DERIVED FROM SANSKRIT AND FOLLOW THE SAME BASIC RULES OF SANSKRIT GRAMMAR. KNOWLEDGE, GNANA IS ALWAYS PERMANENT AND ABSOLUTE. SINCE LANGUAGE IS A TOOL AND CONVEYS THIS JNANA EVEN LANGUAGES ARE PERMANENT.

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CAN YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE PHRASE "SVETAKETU TATVAMASI" ? CAN YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN UDDALAKAS ADVICE TO SVETAKETU.



ACCORDING TO DVAITA, THE PADA-CHEDA, ACCORDING TO GRAMMAR, THE MESSAGE IS ACTUALLY SVETAKETU ATATVAMASI. TAT-TWAM-ASI ACCORDING TO ADVAITA, TAT(BRAHMAN), TWAM (JEEVA) ASI (EXIST AS ONE AND SAME) . ACCORDING TO DWAITA, SVETAKETU ATAT-TWAM-ASI, SVETAKETU YOU ARE NOT GOD. YOU HAVE TO INTERPRET IT BASED ON THE CONTEXT. SVETAKETU HAS JUST GRADUATED AND COME FROM GURUKULA. HE HAS BECOME VERY ARROGANT AND UDDALAKA HIS SAGE FATHER CALLS HIM AND TELLS HIM "SVETAKETU ATATVAMASI". "SVETAKETU, YOU ARE NOT BRAMHAN, WHY THIS HEAD WEIGHT ?" UDDALAKA IS TRYING TO GIVE A PIECE OF ADVICE TO SVETAKETU AND MAKE HIM WORLD-WISE AND HUMBLE. WHY WILL HE SAY YOU ARE BRAMHAN WHEN SVETAKETU IS ALREADY ARROGANT ? HIS MESSAGE IS "SVETAKETU, JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE GRADUATED, DOES NOT MEAN YOU HAVE LEARNT EVERYTHING. GET DOWN FROM THE HIGH-PEDESTAL, YOU ARE NOT BRAMHAN".

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AYTADATMAM EDAM SARVAM [ANOTHER PART IS INAUDIBLE]



ATMA MEANS SWAMI. FOR ALL OTHERS HE IS SWAMI. THERE ARE TWO BIRDS. ONE BIRD IS NOT EATING ANYTHING BUT ENJOYING. THE OTHER BIRD IS EATING BUT EVERYTHING BUT STILL NOT HAPPY. HE IS NOT DEPENDENT ON ANYTHING, GOD DOES NOT TAKE ANYTHING, BUT HE IS ALWAYS HAPPY. ON THE OTHER HAND, SOULS WHO ARE BONDED TO THIS SAMSAARA SAGARA, KEEP CONSUMING CONSTANTLY. THEIR NEEDS ARE LIMITLESS BUT EVEN WITH ALL THIS CONSUMPTION THEY ARE NOT HAPPY.

Q

CAN YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN "SARVAM IDAM PROTAMSUTRE MANI-GANA IVA" ?



"MATTAH PARATARAM NANYAT KINCID ASTI DHANANJAYA MAYI SARVAM IDAM PROTAM SUTRE MANI-GANA IVA"
GOD IS LIKE A STRING GOING THROUGH ALL THE SOULS LIKE A MANI. HE IS THE INVISIBLE STRING HOLDING ALL THE BEADS WHICH FORM A STRING OF NECKLACE.

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SCRIPTURES SAY THE WHOLE WORLD IS MAYA. BUT QUANTUM PHYSICS HAS PROVEN THAT THE WHOLE WORLD IS JUST SPACE FILLED WITH ENERGY. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT THE WORLD IS AN ILLUSION?



IN DVAITA PHILOSOPHY, WE WON'T ACCEPT THE WHOLE WORLD IS MAYA. DVAITA CLAIMS THE WHOLE WORLD IS INDEED REAL. THE MEANING OF MAYA IS VISHNU'S ICCHA. THE PANCHA-BHUTAS ARE CHANGING FORMS FROM ONE INTO ANOTHER. ENERGY IS NOT AN ILLUSION BUT A FACT. DVAITA PHILOSOPHY IS NOT MAYA VADA.

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Q

HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE PHRASE "AHAM BRAMHASMI" ?



GOD IS SAYING "AHAM BRAMHASMI" IT IS GOD'S STATEMENT. HOW CAN WE SAY HIS STATEMENT AND CLAIM THAT WE ARE BRAMHAN ? IT IS LIKE MR. SO-AND-SO GIVES A STATEMENT AND SAYS "I'M X". HOW CAN I COPY THE SAME STATEMENT, SAY IT ALOUD AND BECOME MR. X ? WE HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT IN WHICH HE THE SUPREME FORM MAKES THAT STATEMENT. WE CANNOT JUST TAKE THE STATEMENT OUT OF CONTEXT AND CLAIM ALL OF US AS BEING BRAMHA HIMSELF.

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