

DECLARATION

I, Sri Chandra Shekhar Upadhyaya bearing Registration Number Ph.D/1072/10 Dated 05-04-10, hereby declare that the subject matter of the thesis entitled “Concept of Oneness in Upaniṣads : A Critical Study” is the record of work done by me and that the contents of this thesis did not form the basis for award of any degree to me or to anybody else to the best of my knowledge. The thesis has not been submitted in any other University / Institute.

Place :

Date :

(Chandra Shekhar Upadhyaya)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I acknowledge my heartfelt regards and gratitude to my revered guide Dr. (Mrs) Swapna Devi, Professor in the Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar and Former Dean, Rabindranath Tagore School of Indian Languages and Cultural Studies, Assam University, Silchar, for her guidance, motherly care and support. Without her constant supervision and encouragement, it would not have been possible for me to give this thesis a final shape. Therefore, I am extremely grateful to her and offer my heartfelt thanks to her.

I convey my sincere gratitude to Dr. Sukhamay Bhattacharjee for his valuable suggestions, encouragement and help.

I offer my sincere gratitude to Prof. Snigdha Das Roy, Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, for her kind co-operation and valuable suggestions that she has given to me during the period of my study.

I extend my regards and cordial thanks to all the venerable teachers of the Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, for their encouragement and support during the course of preparing this thesis.

I tender my special gratitude and thanks to Prof. Mukta Biswas, Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University, Assam, for her valuable suggestions, encouragement and all possible help.

I am extremely thankful to my honourable teacher Dr. Rajendra Nath Sarma, Prof. in the Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University, for his encouragement and kind co-operation.

I sincerely thank all the respected teachers of the Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University for their invaluable suggestions and kind co-operation.

I offer my cordial thanks to Dr. Mausumi Bhattacharjee, Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Bholanath College, Dhubri, for her encouragement and all possible support.

I remain extremely obliged to the officials of Rabindranath Granthagar, Assam University and K. K. Handique library of Gauhati University for their co-operation and help during the time of collecting study materials and necessary information needed for preparing this thesis.

I am thankful to Sri Arun Bhattacharjee for doing his best in D.T.P for preparing this thesis within a short period of time.

Last but not least I express my deep sense of gratitude to my father Late Indra Prasad Upadhyaya and mother Mrs. Gita Devi. I am also thankful to my sisters Dipali Devi, Madhabi Devi and younger brother Homesh Upadhyaya for their full support and continuous inspiration without which it would not have been possible for me to complete this thesis within the stipulated period of time.

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Date :

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PREFACE

The Upaniṣads are considered as the finest products of spiritual research that India has ever made. The ancient seers of India have presented before the people of the world the greatest treasure of thought that enlightens the people with the knowledge of the Ultimate Reality, after knowing which nothing remains to be known.

The Upaniṣads are the divine revelations acquired by the seers of ancient India. These contain the essence of the Vedas. The Upaniṣads give the message of unity in diversity, i. e., oneness, as all the living beings are originated from one Supreme Reality and maintained by Him. The Upaniṣadic thought is based on the very foundation of this concept of oneness. This concept is the very essence of spiritualism, which constitutes the solid structure of Indian culture. The concept of oneness, which is common to each and every Upaniṣad has been incorporated in seven chapters of this thesis basing on the discussion of ten Upaniṣads mentioned in the *Muktikopaniṣad*.

It has been observed that after applying the advanced scientific knowledge also human beings have failed to achieve peace of mind, which is the ultimate goal of human life. This is because people of today's world are guided by selfish motive and ignorance. Lack of proper knowledge brings discrimination, separatism, hatred, inequality and other negative things that bring violence and conflict in the society. Intolerance is the greatest misfortune of the world today. India, which is a land of spirituality, generosity, purity, etc., has also come under the grip of intolerance that becomes obstacle of purity, patience and perseverance. The Upaniṣads are some of the

most fascinating writings in the world literature, which reveal the fact that diversified creations of this world are the manifestations of the *ekamevādvitīyam Brahman* that controls and sustains everything. The human beings with their shallow knowledge are unable to find out the presence of the divine Spirit in all the living beings. The concept of oneness of the Upaniṣads may help one to understand that his own self is identical with every soul as well as the Supreme Soul. This concept may help to eradicate hatred and conflict and create the feeling of love, fellow-feeling, brotherhood, etc. Faith in one's own self and faith in the existence of one Supreme Soul in each and every creature may help to build divinity within our minds.

Several studies have already be done to explore the Upaniṣadic literature, but still human beings have to go a long way on the path of humanity for getting a peaceful life. Considering the eternal relevance of the Upaniṣadic thoughts, an attempt has been made in this thesis to study the concept of oneness, which may help the human beings to live with others in co-operation and love. The Upaniṣads teach us the essential oneness of humanity and guide us to the truth that the whole world is a family-'*vasudhaiva kutumbakam*'. Thus the age-old concept of oneness perceived by the Upaniṣadic seers seems to be more relevant today than ever before.

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Chandra Shekhar Upadhyaya

SCHEME OF TRANSLITERATION

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ABBREVIATIONS

Textual

ACSIP	:	A Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy.
AHIP	:	A History of Indian Philosophy.
AIG	:	All is God.
ASAC	:	Absolute Self and Consciousness.
ASOTU	:	A Study of Taittirīya Upaniṣad.
AU	:	Aitareya Upaniṣad.
AV	:	Atharvaveda.
BIU	:	Bliss in the Upanishads.
BU	:	Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad.
CNESSL	:	Contribution of North East-States to Sanskrit Literature.
COED	:	Concise Oxford English Dictionary
CPI	:	Constructive Philosophy of India
CSUP	:	Constructive Survey of Upanishadic Philosophy.
CTCD	:	Chambers 20 th Century Dictionary.
CU	:	Chāndogya Upaniṣad.
DOIU	:	Discourses on Isavasya Upaniṣad.
EOIP	:	Essentials of Indian Philosophy.
EOSW	:	Essence of Spiritual Wisdom.
E.UP	:	Eight Upaniṣads.
FHBTCR	:	F.H. Bradley and the Concept of Reality.
GFTP	:	God and the Finite Self in Tagore's Philosophy.
GIP	:	Guide to Indian Philosophy.

GPU	:	Gopāla Purvatāpani Upaniṣad.
HP	:	Hitopadeśa.
IP	:	Indian Philosophy.
Īso.U	:	Īsopaniṣad.
IT	:	Inspired Talks.
Kā.S	:	Kāṭhaka Samhitā.
Kai.U	:	Kaivalya Upaniṣad.
Kat.U	:	Kaṭha Upaniṣad.
Ken. U	:	Kenopaniṣad.
KG	:	Kīrtanghosā
KK	:	Kalyāṇa Kalpataru.
KU	:	Kauṣītaki Upaniṣad.
Mā.U	:	Māṇḍūkya Upaniṣad.
Mai.U	:	Maitrāyaṇyupaniṣad.
MKU	:	Muktikopaniṣad.
MOU	:	Message of the Upanisads.
MU	:	Muṇḍaka Upaniṣad.
NGS	:	Nāmaghoṣā.
OALDCE	:	Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English.
OIP	:	Outlines of Indian Philosophy.
PU	:	Praśna Upaniṣad.
PVASV	:	Practical Vedānta and the Science of Values.
RV	:	Ṛgveda.
RVM	:	Raghuvamśam.

Śat.B	:	Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa.
ŚBG	:	Śrimadbhagavadgītā.
SG	:	Sanskṛti-Gauravam
SM	:	Saṁskṛtamañjarī
ŚMB	:	Śrimadbhāgavata
ŚRCM	:	Śri Rāmcarita Mānas.
STOKU	:	Sublime Thoughts of Katha Upanishad.
ŚU	:	Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad.
Tai.B	:	Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa.
TAV	:	The Advaita of Vivekananda.
TCPU	:	The Charm and Power of the Upaniṣads.
TCU	:	The Call of the Upanishads.
THPU	:	The Thirteen Principal Upanishads.
TMOTV	:	The Making of the Vedānta.
TPAAD	:	The Pronouncing Anglo Assamese Dictionary.
TPCF	:	The Present Crisis of Faith.
TPOU	:	The Philosophy of the Upanishads.
TPSED	:	The Practical Sanskrit English Dictionary.
TPU	:	The Principal Upaniṣads.
TRI	:	The Renaissance of India.
TRV	:	The Religion of the Veda.
TU	:	Taittirīya Upaniṣad.
TUAA	:	The Upaniṣads an Anthology.
TUDOS	:	The Upanishadic Doctrine of Self.

U	:	Upaniṣads.
UAS	:	Upaniṣads Akhaṇḍa Samskaran.
UAWI	:	Upaniṣads : Ancient Wisdom of India.
UFA	:	Upaniṣads for All
UK	:	Upanishad Kasturi.
UR	:	Upaniṣads Retold.
US	:	Upaniṣad Samgraha.
USD	:	Upaniṣads in Story and Dialogue.
Vā.S	:	Vājasaneyi Samhitā.
VP	:	Viṣṇu Purāṇa.
YS	:	Yogasutra
YV	:	Yajurveda

GENERAL

ed.	:	edited.
Eng.	:	English.
etc.	:	<i>et ceteri or cetera</i> and the others, and so forth.
Ibid.	:	Ibidem in the same place
i.e.	:	<i>id est</i> that is.
no.	:	number.
p	:	page.
pp	:	pages.
Trans.	:	Translation.
viz.	:	(L. <i>videlicet</i>) = namely; to wit.
Vol.	:	Volume.