

Comments from the Chief Advisor

It is with profound reverence and intellectual enthusiasm that I welcome you to the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Sanātana Dharma*. This moment marks not merely the launch of a scholarly publication, but the awakening of a civilizational voice—one that has long echoed through the corridors of time, yet now seeks renewed articulation in the language of contemporary academic inquiry.

Sanātana Dharma, often translated as the “eternal way,” is not a static doctrine but a living, breathing worldview that encompasses the spiritual, philosophical, ethical, and scientific dimensions of existence. It is a tradition that has never been confined to a single text, sect, or dogma. Rather, it is a vast ocean of knowledge systems, experiential wisdom, and cultural expressions that have evolved organically across millennia. In this light, the *Journal of Sanātana Dharma* is envisioned as a confluence where rigorous scholarship meets the timeless spirit of *dharmā*.

The journal's multilingual and multidisciplinary approach reflects the pluralistic ethos of Indic civilization. By welcoming contributions in English, Sanskrit, Hindi, Gujarati, Bengali, Marathi, and other Indian languages, we honour the diverse linguistic traditions that have preserved and transmitted *dhārmika* knowledge across generations. This inclusivity is not merely symbolic, it is essential. For the truths of Sanātana Dharma are not bound by language; they are expressed through *śabda* (sound), through *rasa* (sentiment), and through *anubhava* (experience).

Our thematic scope is equally expansive. From the metaphysical depths of the *Upaniṣads* to the pragmatic wisdom of the Arthaśāstra, from the poetic grandeur of the Mahākāvyas to the scientific precision of Jyotiṣa, from the healing philosophies of Āyurveda to the transformative practices of Yoga and Tantra—each domain offers a unique lens into the *dhārmika* worldview. These are not isolated silos of knowledge; they are interwoven threads in the tapestry of *Bhārata*, a civilization that has always seen unity in diversity, and consciousness in all things.

In curating this inaugural issue, we have consciously chosen to keep the thematic boundaries open. This decision stems from our belief that the first issue should serve as a mirror, reflecting the breadth of inquiry, the depth of devotion, and the diversity of perspectives that define Sanātana Dharma. We invite scholars, practitioners, seekers, and sceptics alike to engage with these traditions not as relics of the past, but as living systems of thought that continue to shape our present and future.

It is important to recognize that the academic study of Sanātana Dharma is not without its challenges. For too long, Indic knowledge systems have been viewed through lenses that are alien to their own epistemologies. Colonial frameworks, orientalist biases, and reductionist methodologies have often distorted the essence of *dhārmika* thought. The *Journal of Sanātana Dharma*

seeks to correct this imbalance— not by rejecting modern scholarship, but by enriching it with indigenous perspectives, contextual sensitivity, and philosophical rigor. We are committed to fostering a space where traditional scholars and modern academics can engage in meaningful dialogue. Where *śāstra* meets science, where *paramparā* meets pedagogy, and where *bhakti* meets critical inquiry. This is not a journal of apologetics, nor is it a platform for polemics. It is a space for *śravaṇa* (listening), *manana* (reflection), and *nididhyāsana* (deep contemplation).

As we embark on this journey, we are guided by the principle that knowledge must serve a higher purpose. In the *dhārmika* tradition, scholarship is not an end in itself, rather it is a means to liberation, to harmony, and to the *ṛta* as the *Vedas* declare, “*Satyam vada dharmam cara*” (speak the truth, walk the path of *dharma*). This journal aspires to embody that spirit: to speak truth through scholarship, and to walk the path of *dharma* through intellectual integrity.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the editorial team, contributors, reviewers, and readers who have made this endeavour possible. Your dedication, insight, and courage have laid the foundation for what I hope will become a beacon of *dhārmika* scholarship in the years to come.

To our readers, whether you are seasoned scholars or curious newcomers, I invite you to engage with this journal not just with your intellect, but with your heart. For Sanātana Dharma is not merely to be studied, it is to be lived, felt, and realized. Let this inaugural issue be the beginning of a new chapter in the unfolding story of *dharma*. A chapter where ancient wisdom meets modern inquiry, where East meets West not in conflict but in conversation, and where the eternal truths of Sanātana Dharma find new expressions in the language of our times.

With humility and hope,



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Journal of Sanātana Dharma