



**INTEGRATION OF
INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM
IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

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Indian Knowledge System Across Discipline

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1.0 Introduction

The enormous and varied body of knowledge, philosophy, sciences, arts, and spiritual traditions that have arisen and grown in the Indian subcontinent over the course of several millennia are referred to as Indian Knowledge Systems and Traditions. This term is also known as Indian Knowledge Systems and Traditions. In India, these systems and traditions have always been an essential part of the country's cultural fabric, and they continue to play a key part in the formation of the country's society, intellectual processes, and methods of existence. India's knowledge heritage spans over several millennia, representing a vast and intricate tapestry of knowledge that has shaped not only its own culture but also the wider world. This chapter on one hand delves into the Indian knowledge system, exploring its ancient and philosophical foundations and on one hand IKS across various disciplines such as mathematics, astronomy medicines, metallurgical innovations and their lasting impact on contemporary science and research.

1.1 Ancient Roots

These ancient roots date back to the beginning of our civilisation. The Vedas, which are considered to be some of the oldest sacred scriptures in the world, serve as the basis for the intellectual and spiritual framework that underpins Indian thought, hymns, rites, and philosophical discourses. Indian knowledge systems have ancient roots that date back to the Indus Valley Civilisation, which existed approximately between 3300 and 1300 BCE, and the Vedic period,

which occurred approximately between 1500 and 500 BCE. The six school of thought of Indian Philosophy are relevant till today and has impacted the knowledge system around the world. The following sections will discuss philosophical foundations:

1.1.1 Philosophical Foundations

The Indian knowledge system is deeply rooted in its philosophical and spiritual traditions, which blend empirical observation with metaphysical inquiry.

1. **The Vedic Tradition:** According to Hinduism, the Vedas are the earliest known scriptures. They were written between the years 1500 and 500 BCE. There is a wide spectrum of information that they embrace, ranging from philosophical thoughts to hymns of religious observance. An example of this would be the Rigveda, which is a collection of hymns that theorise on the nature of the universe and the beginnings of existence. These writings are examples of an early attempt to comprehend natural occurrences and the order of the cosmos, which laid the foundation for the investigation of scientific questions.
2. **Classical Philosophical Schools:** The Indian philosophical landscape includes several schools of thought, each contributing uniquely to the development of knowledge:
 - **Nyaya:** This school, founded by Gautama (around 2nd century BCE), which was established by Gautama (about the second century BCE), places an emphasis on epistemology and logic. A formal system of logic and a theory of knowing that is founded on observation, inference, and comparison were established as a result of this theory.
 - **Vaisheshika:** This school of thought was established by Kanada about the second century BCE, and its