INTRODUCTION
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0.1 Meaning Nature and Scope of Philosophy

*Bhārata* is our holy country, which separates itself from the other countries for its specific talents. The etymological meaning of the word *Bhārata* is this: “Bhā “means” knowledge” and “Rata” means “engaged”. So our country is one where the people are devoted to knowledge.

The earliest records of the story of the most profound knowledge and the highest wisdom are contained in the hymns of the *Rgveda* in later *Samhitās* the *Brāhmaṇas* and the *Upaniṣads* the Epics. The books of ethics, justice and laws. The message of their teachings reached the distant lands of China and Japan, South East Asia, Persia, central Asia and Greece. Like other philosophies, the philosophy of India began in reflections on the problems of human existence, the place of man in the universe and the meaning and purpose of life.

The philosophical thoughts and practical implications have become simplified in the age of the *Upaniṣads*. The word *Upaniṣad* literally mean “sitting near devotedly”. It signifies the instructions concerning the highest truth imparted by the learned teacher to his disciple.

The *Upaniṣads* evolve a world-view which is reflected in the six different tributaries of thought that we call the six systems of Indian philosophy. In these six systems of Indian philosophy, they elaborately interprete the core of *Upaniṣad*ic teachings and try to resolve the apparent
Fig. No. 1
contradictions found in them by spotlighting the truth from their own particular standpoints. Philosophy is “Darśana” a vision of truth. Thus there arise in the logical realism of Nyāya, the atomic pluralism of Vaiśeṣika the evolutionary dualism of Sāṃkhya the theism and morlism of Yoga the absolute monism of Vedānta the ritualistic polytheism and practical pragmatism of Mīmāṁsā. But even in their diversified interpretations of truth, these systems do not lose sight of the ultimate truth - the law of fulfillment.

0.1.1 Meaning of Philosophy

Etymologically the word philosophy has been derived from two Greek words:-

Philos + Sophia = Philosophy

(means) (means) (means)

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Love + wisdom = Love of wisdom.

Thus, philosophy is love of wisdom. In this sense, philosophy in India was never considered as merely an intellectual understanding of the World around us; It is a search for truth. The derivative sense indicates.

“drṣyate jñāyate anena iti darśanam”.
"Darśana" means vision; it is the vision of reality. In the words of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Indian Philosophy is "a way of life, an approach to spiritual realization".1

0.1.ii Nature of Philosophy

a) Philosophy is subjective in nature. Each and every person has his own vision. Philosophical thoughts differ from person to person. Therefore philosophy is subjective in nature.

b) Philosophy is objective in nature. This is the vision about the object. The Philosopher concentrates his mind on one object and the thought-waves act according to the object.

c) Philosophy is universal in nature. Deep Philosophical thoughts lead to universal truth and this is applicable for all. In other words Philosophy is about the universe for the universe and by the universe. According to Herber Spencer, "Philosophy is concerned with everything as universal science".2

d) Philosophy is the inborn quality of human being. This philosophy differs from person to person according to his instinctive value

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1 N.D. Rajadhyaksha: The six systems of Indian Philosophy, P.4.
2 Religious Philosophy, P.4.
e) Philosophy is bio-logical in nature. Because philosophy studies about the living beings. Plato states that “Philosophy is a way of living and dying.”

f) Philosophy is social in nature some people think that Philosophers are unsocial. But Philosophy or deep observation solves personal as well as social problems. It leads to a healthy society.

g) Philosophy is cumulative in nature. The thought waves of a Philosopher become deeper and deeper and sharper and sharper. It never goes downwords.

h) Philosophy is analytical in nature. It analyses the object very peculiarly and gets a conclusion.

3 Ibid.
i) Philosophical ideas come from the result of practice. The philosophers have to think over the object again and again.

j) Philosophy is scientific in nature. Because philosophy is not general observation, but it is a very keen observation. It follows the scientific procedures, viz. observation, analysis, synthesis, hypothesis, verification and generalization. Windelhand says that “Philosophy is the critical science of universal value.” To Aristotle “Philosophy is the science which considers truth.”

k) Philosophy is educative in nature. We learn the philosophical values from other high intellectuals. According to Cicero – “Philosophy is the director of our lives, friend of virtue and enemy of life.” “Philosophy determines the various aspects of education. It determines not only the aims and objectives but also methods of teaching, discipline, nature of the text-book and evaluation.”

0.1.iii Scope of Philosophy:

Philosophy is the root of each and every knowledge. The scope of philosophy is very wide. Let us discuss some scopes of philosophy.

a) Philosophy is applied in the field of sociology. Sociology is the science of society. Philosophy is the science of man and his thoughts, his

5 Ibid.
6 Ibid.
7 Education in Emerging Indian Society. B. K. Nayak P.100.
behaviour or activities. Man is a social animal. Without studying the human being we can not study the social nature of human being and the society. Therefore the scope of philosophy is widely spread in the field of sociology.

b) Philosophy is applied in the field of psychology. Psychology is the study of mind, soul and behaviour. Philosophy is also the study of mind, soul and behaviour. So philosophy is applied in the field of psychology.

c) Philosophy is applied in the field of ethics, moral and religion.

d) Philosophy is applied in the field of biology. Both are studying the living beings.

e) Philosophy is applied in the field of history. History studies the man and his story. Philosophy also studies the man and his story.

f) Philosophy is applied in the field of art and literature. Without deep vision no art or literature can be built up

g) Philosophy is applied in the field of physical science and natural science. Philosophy studies both the human being and the nature.

h) Philosophy is applied in the field of Anthropology. Anthropology is the science of man and philosophy, is also the scientific study of man.

i) Philosophy is applied in the field of Education. Education teaches about the all round development of human being and philosophy also does
this. According to John Adams, “Education is the dynamic side of Philosophy.”\textsuperscript{8} According to Ross – “Philosophy and education are the two sides of the same coin.”

Therefore, the scope of philosophy is very wide.

\textsuperscript{8} Ibid.