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Chapter-II

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF ISHWARIYA VISHWA VIDYALAYA

2.1 Introduction

The time of establishment of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya coincided with the period when Hindu society in India had decayed immensely. Owing to the influence of Muslim culture for several centuries followed by the Christian and generally speaking the occidental culture the daily life of the Hindus had lost righteousness and become debased. People performed ceremonies of worship. The greater these were in evidence deeper was the hold exercised by greed for wealth, corruption in business, anger in daily routine, attachment to whatever is in one's home and deep seated vicious thoughts. Useless and expensive customs and hollow observations continued eating into the vitals of society. Priests, pundits and religious teachers collected hoards. They never gave to their clients the knowledge that would enable them to have a holy home, equipped with moral conduct and thus relax with peace. They were proficient only in book knowledge and in performing ceremonies. Society had relegated women only to look after the households and their children as if they were servants engaged for that purpose. There was no freedom for women. They remained illiterate and were confined to the four walls of their houses. They were in a swoon due to the darkness of their ignorance. It was a period of abysmal darkness.
2.2 The Founder of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Dada Lekharaj who founded the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya was born in 1876 in Sindh in the Kripalani family. He was born to a devotee of the Vallabhachari sect. His father was the headmaster of a school. However Dada Lekharaj rose from an ordinary grain merchant to be a noted jeweller. He was considered as an infallible judge of gems. In the course of his business he came into contact with the rulers, rich men and successive viceroyes of the time. Dada Lekharaj had not received much of formal education. He was conversant with Sindhi language. He studied religious books in Hindi. He understood very well the Granth Sahib in Gurmukhi and read newspapers in English. He was proficient in writing letters. He was good judge of literature as well as art. He had introduced new designs in the field of his business. They were all original and there was no imitation.

Dada Lekharaj had been devoted exclusively to Shri Narayan from his boyhood. He loved him so much that he kept his picture in his prayer room in his bedroom and under his pillow. He used to have one in his pocket, another in his box so that wherever he went or in whatever he did there was Shri Narayana before him. He dearly liked pilgrimages to Amarnath, Haridwar, Prayag, Vrindaban, Kashi and other such places and found delight in keeping saints and hermits at his place.

Dada Lekharaj dedicated his all to the noble cause of moral and spiritual upliftment, abnegation of meaningless and expensive rituals and eradication of evils, such as the use of alcohol and...
the vices – anger and sex-lust and bad customs of males and giving dowry, etc.

Dada Lekharaj formed a trust and donated and willed all his movable and immovable property to the trust. In this trust only women were made as trustees. He had a great desire that women who had been neglected for centuries but who had many spiritual qualities should take up the work. He named the institution also after the Brahma Kumaris. The Brahma Kumaris manage the institution according to the wish of its founding father. Brahma Kumars only help them in their planning and execution.

2.3 Birth and Growth of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya was founded in 1936-37 by Dada Lekharaj. The Head Quarters of this Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya was shifted from Hyderabad (Sindh) now in Pakistan, to Mount Abu, the highest peak of western India situated in the lap of Aravali Hills in Rajasthan in 1950. This unique Vishwa Vidyalaya has become a well respected institution as its spiritual wisdom and teachings of moral and ethical values have provided life long learning to people of all ages. Over the years it has gained international acceptance and recognition for its service to humanity.

20th century in its post period itself, saw two world wars, when we look into the preliminary aspect of this point, we will come to know about the legal, humanistic and historical abruptly of human beings. Our society, our state and our world was in a condition of rupture due to the materialistic joys, exploitation to fulfill their selfish joys, despotism, self restricting way and doing exploitation on the basis of religious inequalities. At this stage Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya came into existence with aims to improve the status of human beings all over the world, to preach spiritual knowledge specially in scientific way in the holy Indian land to build an unified happy society and through that lay the foundation to form a divine state. With its specified activities, this institution has proved its specialty in comparison to other such institutions.

When life becomes an example to any vision, it becomes unanimous in all times. We can see the visible example of the life and personality of Dada Lekharaj who followed the vision and excellent life style of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya and has practiced and experienced his life.

Mount Abu in Rajasthan is the meeting place of history, culture and religion. Mount Abu is situated in the south west of Marudhara region. It is the crown pearl of Aravali mountain range, situated somewhat south east of the centre of the Sirohi district of Rajasthan state between 24°31' and 24°43' North Pole and 72°38' and 72°53' East.²

This mountain range is of 30 kms long and 12 kms wide. The peak of this mountain range is of 16 kms long and 3-6 kms wide. This peak region is known as ‘Mount Abu’ and is said to be the attractive place of the world. Guru peak is the highest peak mountain and is 5653 feet high from the sea level. Guru peak of Abu is situated in between the Himalayas and Vindhyachala mountain ranges is the highest peak.

Mount Abu is famous from the age of epics, due its excellent reasons. Megastanese, Pleeni and Huen-stang have described Mount Abu in their writings. Many saints have done authority in this Mount Abu. Guru Dattatreya established his hermitage on this Guru (Shikar). It is also said that glorious pandavas had spent some days here at the time of their vanavasa (living in forest). Caves with the names of Bheema and Pandava will remind us about them.

There is a cave in the name of Nala which remembers us the emperor of Vidharbha Nala Maharaja. It is said that, after losing his empire in gambling, Nala Maharaja with his wife Damayanti wandered here. Even Satya Harischandra also, after sacrificing his kingdom and wealth, wandered in this meditational land, in remembrance of Harischandra cave in Mount Abu. Bhartruhari and Raja Gopichand also spent their last days of detachment life in these caves. It is said that many saints had established their hermitage in this lonely beautiful mountain range of Abu. At the same time kings were using this place as an amusement place in summer season.

The Dilwara Temple of Mount Abu is world famous. Religiously it is a sacred temple for Jains and is an excellent gift for the field of art
and architecture. It is mentioned in Vimala Shastra that this temple complex was established by the lands of Acharya Vardhamana Suri in the year 1031. In this complex there are vimalavasati, lonavasati, bheemavasati, parshwanatha Bhagavan temples spreading sacred message to the world. There are statues of meditating Jain Munis in downstairs. In the upstairs marvellous sculptural art is found which remembers us about heaven the abode of God we can see Achaleshwara Mahadev temple in Achalagad, Dattatreya temple, Arbudadevi temple, Gomuka (face of cow) and Vashistashram. We can see the mountains inner water flowing always through Gomukha. This is an ancient legendaral place, virtues place, a naturally beautiful place. Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has chosen this marvellous place. In 1950 which is a suitable lonely place for meditation for its important mission with a vision to create future world with philosophy and spiritual importance. Every institution has its own aims and reasons for its existence. We found a totally different type of institution here. India is attracting all countries of the world with its specified culture. The name ‘Bharata’ itself is special “Bha” means splendour and “rata” means interest. That means interest in splendour. So Bharatiyaru means always people with interest of splendour, when we look into the ancient epic history of ‘Bharata’ we will come to know about the importance of ‘Bharata’. Many saints, meditators, devotees, rishis and writers like

Bhuddha, Basava, Mahaveera, Gurunanak, Ramakrishna, Vivekananda, Shankaracharya, Akkamahadevi, Meerabai, Kalidasa, Kanakadasaru, Ramanujaru, Madhwacharyaru and epic personalities like Rama and Krishna prove the importance of Bharata. At the same time great epics and literatures like Bhagavadgeeta, Upanishads, Vedas, Gurugranthasahib, etc. justify the greatness of Bharata'. For all these reasons only till today 'Bharata' is the central point of global attraction.

In October, 1937 Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya global institution was started in Hyderabad of Sindh region (now in Pakistan) with the name Om Mandali. Since Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya was established in the last century it will not become difficult for us in collecting the information's relating to this institution. Some people who participated in the opening ceremony of this institution are still alive. We can also collect information from old records, books, VCDs and photos also. It is said that, this institution was not started by any single person, but Almighty Shiva has done this act by entering in the body of an old man – Dada Lekharaj (i.e. Parakayaprasesha) and established this special institution. Many intellectuals and aged persons justify this statement.

In this present study, we are doing a vision work upon that great man, who became the media to establish this excellent institution and through that an effort is made to know and collect the

historical background of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

2.4 Affiliation with Government and International Bodies

Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is affiliated to the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations as a Non-Government Organization (NGO). It holds General Consultative Status in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and UNICEF. The organization has an agreement with the UN University for peace in Costa Rica. It received 6 peace Messenger Awards for its work in promoting peace during the international year of peace 1987.

Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is recognized as a university by an Act of Parliament of the Republic of Mauritius. The Common Wealth of Russia has granted official recognition to this spiritual Vishwa Vidyalaya in their country. Mohanlal Sukhadiya University of Udaipur (Rajasthan) awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctorate of Literature (D.Lit.) to Raj Yogini Prakash Mani then Chief Administrative Head of the Organization.  

2.5 Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya’s Holistic Approach to Current Crisis

With its spiritual approach and the high spiritual discipline the institution has been working for world peace and equilibrium around the globe.

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya's focus is on the spiritual perspectives of psychology, metaphysics, sociology, philosophy, world history and cultural traditions and other related subjects which are the basic requirements to lead a happy social life. The teachings give a universal overview of life to integrate the inner and outer worlds of individuals of all age groups and geographical regions. The workers of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya serve the people of all religions and all cultural and socio-economic backgrounds around the world through its world wide network of branches. The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya provides training for all-round personality development that prepares a person to face challenges that arise from personal professional and social areas.

2.6 Predominance of Women in the Organization

Most of the centres are run by women (Brahma Kumaris) because of the importance of the mystical and spiritual capacity of the feminine. The founder of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya understood the need to give importance to women in world transformation. He recognized the need to readdress the imbalance between the genders by raising the status and position of women and establish their right to pursue a spiritual life and dedicate their lives to spiritual service if this is their choice.

2.7 Objectives of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has the following objectives.
1. To create a deep awareness of the important role of spirituality in human development.

2. To understand our rights as well as our responsibilities in society and work together to achieve reconciliation of human values and peace.

3. To introduce practical programmes everywhere emphasising the importance of world brotherhood (being children of one God, the World Father) and thus maintain global harmony.

4. To create sense of global cooperation for an ideal world.

The above objectives have both social and political implications with a spiritual content. Hence the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya aims at social transformation through the establishment of a value based society emphasizing the rights as well as duties of every citizen for establishing a cooperative global order.

2.8 Courses or Subjects of Instruction of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The following are the courses or subjects of instruction provided by the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

1. Peace of Mind and World Peace
2. Future of Mankind
3. Purity
4. Spiritual Truths, Moral Values and Character Building
5. Self Realisation
6. God Realisation
7. Raj Yog Meditation – Theory and Practice
8. Powers through Raj Yoga
9. Knowledge about the Soul World
10. Knowledge about the Subtle World
11. The Law of Action and Reaction and Inculcation of Divine Virtues
12. Spiritual Social Service
13. Removal of Blind Faith, Social Evils, Superstition and Ritualistic Taboos
14. Survey of World Religions and Ethnic Unity
15. World History and Geography including Golden and Silver Ages
16. Civilization of Bharat during the Deity Period
17. Leading Lotus like Life
18. International Harmony
19. Stressfree Management of Business Industry and Household Life
20. Self Management Leadership Course

2.9 Expertise to Other Universities

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya also provides its expertise to other Universities, ITIs, Academies, Teachers' Training Institutions, Public Sector Industries, Private Group of Industries, Social Service Institutions, etc. for moral and cultural orientation of their faculties, staff members, students, workers, etc. This expertise is provided either at the campus of these institutions or their selected personnel have to take these courses at the head quarters of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

This moral and spiritual orientation and Rajayoga meditation give various sectors of the society the benefits of the ancient spiritual
wisdom, the highest spiritual values as applied to our day to day situations. It leads to a change in their outlook, behaviour, mutual relations, work culture and personal life.

2.10 Eligibility for Admission

The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is open to all men, women and children without any distinction of caste, culture, sect, sex, colour, age, country, nationality, community, religion, politics and professions, etc.

2.11 Duration of Preliminary and Advanced Courses

1. Preliminary Courses are for visitors consisting of:
   1) 3 days Raja Yoga Camps
   2) 7 days Self-realisation and Spiritual Knowledge Course

2. Advanced Courses comprise of;
   1) One month Spiritual Teachers Periodical Intensive Course at all centres.
   2) One week higher Raja Yoga experience and Refresher Course at all centres.
   3) Life-time Course (daily classes at all centres for regular students only)

2.12 Methods of Education of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya conducts its educational courses through books, magazines and charts, lectures, museums, exhibitions, fairs, conferences, seminars, get-togethers,
Raja Yoga Camps, correspondence courses, films, slide shows, radio, television and other modern media in all fields of society.

Conferences, seminars, workshops and get-togethers are the means of education both for classes and masses. Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya organizes such events for judges, doctors, professors, media persons, scientists and engineers, business men and industrialists, poets and literatures, artists, youths, women social workers, politicians, administrators, etc. The top brass from each one of the segments of the society or from every profession are invited to address or to participate in discussions and deliberations. Conferences, workshops, seminars or get-togethers are the informal-cum-formal means of educating certain categories who may later join the classes.

Exhibitions organized by Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya are on different themes. One of these may be on the place and role of women in our society. Another one may be on giving up smoking and intoxicating drugs. There may be exhibitions for giving people a world view and glimpses of the past and vision of the future. All these and other exhibitions organized by Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya are for character building and for promotion of values.

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya organizes cultural programmes like dramas, puppet shows, dances, dialogues, etc. to promote values and to inspire people for taking good ways of life.

2.13 Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya with a Difference

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya claims to be a university with a difference on the ground that most other
universities enable a person to attain a Master's Degree in one of the arts or sciences or to become a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) while this university enables him to be the master of his own thoughts, desires, emotions and sense organs and to be a doctor so to say of the Philosophy of Life so that he can lead a healthy and happy life.

2.14 The Thrust of Education of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya imparts education in moral and human values so as to develop man's potentiality for doing good. Following are the thrust areas of education of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

1. Education in Art and Science of Living a Noble and Happy Life.
2. Art of Positive Thinking
3. Development of Positive Attitudes
4. Education in Behavioural Science and Management of Happy Relations
5. Education for Building High Character
6. Education in Moral and Human Values
7. Education to make Adjustments in Life Situations and change Habits in Nature
8. Education for Emotional Balance and Self-restraint
9. Education that Liberates from Various Prejudices and Negativity
10. Education for Development of Rationality and Objectivity
11. Education for Having Motive of Public Welfare and Allround Growth
12. Education that Corrects Imbalances in Human Personality and Enables Man to have Mind Control
13. Education in Problem Solving and Conflict Resolution
14. Education about One's Own Identity
15. Education about Consciousness and Cosmos and for having a World View
16. History, Geography and Political Science
17. Rajyoga Meditation
18. An Open University and an Institute of Mass Education
19. An Institute of Continuing on-going Education

Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya believes in bringing harmony in human relations and changing the attitudes and outlook of man so that there is the spirit of brotherhood love and cooperation. This goal of establishing a new world order in which there is honesty, sincerity, goodwill and high civic sense is to be achieved by facilitating to have a clear vision of their goal and also their respective role in the world drama. Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya gives them a clear world view and also knowledge of their own identity. The theory and practice of Rajyoga Meditation is taught so that man's mind becomes free from tension, bias, prejudices, jealousy, hatred, greed, ego and other such negative tendencies that cause conflict in the society and degrade the person himself. Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya gives special guidance for the effort of inculcating moral values and divine virtues in the self and enables a person to experience deep peace and bliss through meditation and spiritual wisdom.
Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya and the sister concern Rajyoga Education and Research Foundation founded in 1982 and the Brahma Kumaris Academy for a Better World founded in 1996 have been working for restoration of values in all professions and age groups. These institutions have setup various wings and departments or faculties that conduct courses for various sections of society or hold conferences, seminars, workshops, etc. in order to share with them the ancient spiritual heritage and the art and experience of Meditation and inspire them to have for themselves a code of conduct to follow. Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya holds Rajyoga Meditation camps at Mount Abu where it has its own arrangements for stay and food.

2.15 Spiritual Teachings and Spiritual Techniques

The present system of education emphasizes the technical and scientific course as well as commerce, information technology, biotechnology, etc. which are eclipsed social sciences, the humanities and philosophical disciplines. Consequently young people have not received the true teachings for the development of their personality, character and the cultivation of mature spiritual ethical policy for adult life. This has resulted in several generations of immature adults which have contributed to the breakdown of the traditional and social systems. The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya provides for spiritual teachings and addresses the most important metaphysical questions of one's origin and his ultimate destiny.
The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya provides short term discourses through different spiritual pictorial charts and maps in all languages in a very simple way to explain the true knowledge about God, the self, true religion, and the deep secrets of the philosophy of Karma mentioned in the sacred scripture “The Gita” to invoke and develop the inner spiritual powers for a perfect life.

**Spiritual Techniques**

The Vishwa Vidyalaya inspires different professional people of all societies to change their life style and workmanship through the ancient religious teachings and philosophy contained in our scriptures. The Vishwa Vidyalaya believes that tension and suffering arise when the spirit of cooperation, sympathy, brotherhood and selfless love are diminished. Therefore the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya teaches individuals how to restore these inner qualities. Spiritual discourses include stress management, time management, positive thinking and meditation for people in all walks of life such as business and industry as well as in their social and family life.

**2.16 Centres of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya**

The Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University has 8500 spiritual education and Raja Yoga Training centres in India and abroad in more than 130 countries all over the world. Students come to the head quarters to attend the ‘Refresher Courses’ which are held throughout the year. The number of dedicated workers are 31000 of which 5000 are male workers and 26000 are female workers. There
are 9 lakhs regular students who come to the centres. There students are from all walks of life who lead a normal household life.

2.17 Disciplines of Vishwa Vidyalaya

The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya adheres to the following disciplines.

1. Vicelessness
2. Non-violence
3. Regular Spiritual Studies
4. Pure Vegetarian Food
5. No Smoking, Drinking or Taking Drugs
6. Imbibing Divine Virtues in Practical Worldly Life
7. Bramhacharya (Celibacy)

2.18 Finances of Vishwa Vidyalaya

Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is a non-fund raising organization. It accepts only voluntary contributions in the field of physical, spiritual and monetary services from its students or brothers and sisters of this divine family who have gained the benefits of overcoming vices and habits like smoking, drinking, non-veg, etc. and who enjoy freedom from social taboos, religious bigotry, ritualistic bondages, etc.

Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya does not charge any fees for the education it imparts. The institution maintains its accounts properly. These are audited by Chartered Accountants and are submitted to the Income Tax authorities. The service centres abroad which are affiliated to this institution also are run on
voluntary contributions. They have to maintain their own accounts according to the law of the land and there are no financial dealings between them and the institution in India.

2.19 Periodicals Published by Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

1. The World Renewal – Monthly (English) Magazine
2. Gyanamrit – Monthly (Hindi) Magazine
3. Omshanti Media – Fortnightly (Hindi) Magazine
4. Purity – Monthly (English) Magazine
5. Gyan Veena – Monthly (Hindi) Magazine
6. Gyan Amrit – Bi-Monthly (Gujarati) Magazine
7. Amrit Kumbh – Bi-Monthly (Marathi) Magazine
8. Gyan Darpan – Monthly (Oriya) Magazine
9. Sangam Yugam – Bi-Monthly (Tamil) Magazine
10. Gyanamrutham – Monthly (Telugu) Magazine
11. Vishwa Nava Nirman – Monthly (Kannada) Magazine

2.20 Philosophy of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

This Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has its own philosophical approaches in the following broad areas viz.,

i) Philosophy of Rajyoga Meditation

ii) Social Philosophy

iii) Philosophy of Religion or Dharma

iv) Philosophy of Spiritual Education

The main thrust of these philosophical approaches of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has been analysed here.
2.21 Philosophy of Rajyoga Meditation of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Rajyoga Meditation is the way for realisation of the real identity of the self and for experiencing it. One has not only to get a lesson or two on moral and human values but to live these lessons. One has not merely to know the truth about the real nature of mind or the self and to know what is beyond, but also one would like to be face to face with truth. One would like to have atleast some glimpses of the beauty of truth and to taste the nectar. Rajyoga provides for all these.

Rajyoga enables a person to withdraw from the thoughts of the body and the material world for a while. It enables to stabilize in the heightened awareness of being a soul – a conscient point of spiritual light which has intrinsic purity and peace. The philosophy of Rajyog enables the participant to focus the mind on the metaphysical self and link itself lovefully to the supreme soul who is ocean of light, bliss, peace, love and might personified in the form of a brilliant and radiant point. Rajyoga enables one to get a consummating experience of peace and bliss by taking his mind into the beyond where there is Divine Light and silence and peace. At this point the self is lit up to its highest intensity and feels ecstatic. Rajyoga helps one to loose the dross and dirt of negativity and shines in its original splendour. Moral will is the strongest at this stage. A person realises his real self and gets first hand experience of truth. The experience of bliss and God's love cleanses the soul of its negative thoughts or at least loosens the grip of odd habits and vicious tendencies. The spiritual benefits of
Rajyoga Meditation have been described after practical experience. There can be no better experience than that which one gets during the period of the practice of meditation. It is so refreshing, energizing, relaxing, reassuring and reawakening. It removes one's tensions, worries, fears and phobias. It increases a person's work efficiency. It takes the burden off his chest. It gives him so many benefits of health, improves his behaviour and relationships with others and gives him a constant happy mood, positive attitudes, self confidence, creative intelligence and a happy lifestyle.

Rajyoga is the link established by single minded, passionate, loveful, purposeful and intellectual remembrance of God. This brings about the divinisation of man, that is purification of the self, the conquest of vices and the attainment of sublime peace and heavenly happiness.

Rajyoga aims at bringing the self in conscious touch with God thus making the soul increasingly aware of its divine origin, divine destiny and divine peaceful real nature.

2.22 Social Benefits of Rajyoga

The practice of Rajyoga is beneficial for the society too. The practice of soul conscious state and spiritual attitude towards others create an attitude of Universal Brotherhood in the aspirant. He rises above the barriers of caste, religion, colour creed, race, language, class, etc. A person practicing Rajyog has no bitterness towards any one on the basis of religious doctrines, cults, provincial boundaries and linguistic or racial differences. Yoga is the means for bringing
about national integration or international brotherhood. Problems of indiscipline, bribery, adulteration can be solved by teaching yoga which as a way of life makes people honest and compassionate and develops their mind to inculcate divine qualities. A yogi is enabled to lead a life of right action, self discipline and duty towards humanity.

2.23 Social Philosophy of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Social philosophy is related to the nature of the society and the interaction of individual with the society. It focuses on the behaviour and personality of the people and how society regulates the human behaviour. It decides the ultimate values of the society. Individuals socialise with each other and socialisation is the process of reciprocal interaction between the individual and the social situation leading to the inculcation of values and skills of the society in the personality system.

The social philosophy of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya aims at encouraging the development of individuality. It enables the individual to understand his social responsibility.

The philosophy of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya creates awareness about self, God and the world through the knowledge which leads one to the highest moral conduct and deepest spiritual insight. An individual is an objective projection of society. Hence he should reflect the good of the society. The educational function of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is to help and guide the people in the exploration of the ultimate universal values and bring the feelings of unity, universal brotherhood, peace, love, cooperation in the world.
The main focus of the social philosophy of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is to bring new world order or establish a peaceful and harmonious society on the earth. It aims to exalt human personality which is based upon the concept of realization of the highest potentialities of the self in a social and cultural environment.

The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has the aim of transforming the society and making it a better place to live in by enriching the divine culture and life style. It is necessary to develop a universal code of conduct for all people to follow and to establish a peaceful society. The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is trying to give a comprehensive, all inclusive totally rational and absolutely correct world view.

2.24 Philosophy of Religion of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The word ‘Religion’ connotes ‘Dharma’ in Sanskrit which means the original nature or inherent and intrinsic quality or the qualities that ought to be included in the self. Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is involved in preaching spirituality but not religion in ordinary sense. Religion is defined as a set of beliefs, values and practices based on the teachings of a spiritual personality. Religions have rituals, ceremonies, traditions, acts and paraphernalia of worship, misbeliefs, etc. Spirituality consists of values, virtues and rational spiritual beliefs that enlighten a person about the self, God and the drama, the role and goal of life and the methods of bringing purity and quietude to the mind in a simple rational and experimental way.

‘Religion’ according to Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is having broad meaning like inculcation of divine virtues and practice of the
original qualities of the self, such as love, peace, mercy, bliss, purity, happiness, etc. Different world religions like Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, etc. are having some traditions, superstitions, misbeliefs, etc. Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is spiritual oriented and is giving spiritual knowledge about soul and supreme soul, which brings the light in the life of yogis. This awareness of soul and supreme soul enables yogis to come out of the tradition of meaningless worships, misbeliefs, etc. Religion according to the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya will not be a matter of faith, but will rightly become the philosophy of life. The core subjects of the philosophy of the Vishwa Vidyalaya are true knowledge of the soul and the supreme soul, the course of the world cycle, the form of the relationship between the supreme soul and souls. The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya motivates to have loving and sweet relationship by the soul with the supreme soul. The only aim of this yoga is that man should again inculcate the fundamental virtues such as love, peace and bliss.

Old religious dogmas, rituals and concepts have not helped man in having self control and inner harmony and peace. Hence what is required is the change in knowledge or concepts that should lead to change in attitudes and outlook and further to change in values, behaviours, relations and life style. The practice of values and original qualities is the real religion which one should follow and which leads anybody to happy and healthy life.

Today religion has become less of a spiritual experience and more of a ritual or a gross practice of which too people have little
knowledge because of proliferation which has resulted diversion of people in different directions due to vices and moral degradation. Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya believes that good character and conduct is the real safeguard of the person.

Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is not concerned to any one 'Religion' which is commonly understood and practiced. Its philosophy of religion is spiritual knowledge which has a universal application. It gives a deep experience of the soul and the supreme soul and of intense peace and bliss and any one from any religion may benefit from this treasure of wisdom. The Vishwa Vidyalaya affirms that Rajayoga gives the people a philosophy of life, a personal moral code, a work ethics, happy and healthy life style. Rajayoga is a holistic education that builds up all dimensions of our personality leaving us to our final goal, namely, attainment of perfection, excellence, beatitude, bliss, freedom from negativity and sufferings, etc. The spiritual knowledge of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya gives man a wider vision. It takes the whole world in its embrace. Spirituality is the universal core of all religions.

2.25 Unity of Religions

Religion is a way of life. It is a major dimension of human life. Religion involves learning and understanding one's duty towards self family and society. Religion lays down principles and laws for one to live and let others live a life of dedication not only to one's freedom but also for establishing holistic society. Personal, domestic and social life of majority of people is largely governed by rules of their religion. Each
religion postulates certain duties to its followers. Religion works as a guide prescribing its followers daily duties in their common occupations. It works as a lamp light along their road shows when and where to place their steps.

All religions teach love, brotherhood, compassion and peace. A comparative study of world religions reveals that they all favour peace.

- Vedic or Hindu Religion – Hindu religion believes in Dharma as a uniting force of the society. It proclaims that we are all children of one divine pure consciousness the supreme being God. The Rigveda, the Manuismriti and the Bhagvadgita all preach universal brotherhood, peace, purity, charity, compassion, truthfulness, etc.

- Buddhism: advocates to be compassionate towards all living beings of the universe. It preaches development of knowledge with wisdom, compassion, with love and moral character which will lead to the well being of the entire humanity.

- Christianity: Love, peace and forgiveness are the main tenets of Christianity. It says treat others as you would like them to treat you.

- Sikhism: considers all as children of God. It gives prominence to physical service of God and the motherland.

- Islam: implies surrender to Almighty, surrender to peace. Mercy, compassion and peace are familiar concepts of Quran.

- Jainism: states that what is hurtful to yourself do not do to your fellow men.
> **Zoroastrianism**: preaches – All men and women should mutually love one another and live in peace as brothers and sisters bound by the indestructible hand of humanity.

> **Confucianism**: teaches to live in peace with your brothers. One should seek to be in harmony with one’s neighbours.

> **Taoism**: says “The good ruler seeks peace and not war and he rules the persuasion rather than by force”.

> **Shintoism**: preaches that the earth shall be free from trouble and we shall live in peace under protection of the divine.

> **Bahaism**: maintains “Today there is no greater glory for men and women than that of service in the cause of most ‘Great Peace’.” War is death while peace is life.

It can be concluded from the preaching of various religions that all religions emphasize the need for peace, love and universal brotherhood.

The philosophy of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya also preaches the same principles of peace, love, mercy, cooperation, harmony, etc. through creating an awareness of universal brotherhood and universal fatherhood. The followers of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya give their contribution in bringing new world order on this planet by the knowledge of self realisation and God realisation, practice of love, cooperation, mercy, good will, etc. towards others. Unity of all religions is necessary for it will unite the variegated and

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heterogeneous humanity in a spirit of fellowship which will make them better. The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is trying to build unity out of the divisions and rivalries of nations and conflicts of religions by giving spiritual knowledge of soul and supreme soul to all without any discrimination.

2.26 Philosophy of Education of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Philosophy is basically a belief or an opinion. Philosophy and education are closely related to each other. Education is the application of philosophy. Philosophy of education is applied philosophy. It is the application of philosophy to the study of problems of education.

Education is an instrument for the realisation of the ideals of life. It is a civilized attempt to bring about the desired development of human personality. Philosophy prescribes the goals and basics of good life and education is the best means to achieve those goals. Philosophy defines the roles of a teacher and student and the parent in the educative process. Philosophy can solve all the problems of education.

2.27 Flaws in Modern Education

Today's education is incapable of teaching inter-personal relations where people help and love one another. This is the type of education needed for our society. However today's education is faced with problems of society's deluded values emphasising social status, material wealth and power. Parents are keen on maximising the academic achievements of their children instead of inculcating the values in their life along with the academic progress. Despite higher
education persons occupying high position feel a vacuum within because they lack spiritual awareness and intelligence. Spiritual education is the foundation of value education. When education in values is integrated into education at all levels a person gets equipped for more civilized and enlightened life. Value education instils discipline, interest, curiosity, punctuality, regularity, concentration in the educated men and women. Value education can produce good citizens, teachers, and professionals like doctors, engineers and also administrators. A teacher with spiritual background can be a fountain head or source of inspiration to his students. A teacher is the custodian of social ethics and architect of social order. He is also a guide philosopher, preceptor, parent and protector of students.

2.28 Value Oriented Education of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The spiritual education of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is based on positive, constructive and healthy philosophy of life. It emphasises the higher values of life such as discipline, self control and co-existence. It deals with the inner discipline, inner peace, mind spirit, God and moral law.

Spiritual education of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya enables people to have positive attitude, emotional balance, self restraint, good behaviour, creative intelligence and better human relations. This spiritual education corrects imbalances in human mind and various kinds of prejudices and promotes good will and motives of services and public wellbeing, unity and spirit of world-brotherhood. This philosophy of education teaches the students an art of positive
thinking which helps them to lead a life of contentment. Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya teaches the students to develop the qualities of fellow-feeling, emotional stability, determination, tolerance, saner judgement, etc.

The educational philosophy of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya gives education the direction for developing proper attitudes and outlook among the student for promotion of values viz.,

➢ Good wishes for and good will towards all
➢ The intent to be good to ourselves and to do good to everyone
➢ To see what is good in others
➢ To consider a virtue as its own reward
➢ To listen the voice of good conscious, silence, divine reason of our superiors and well wishers and
➢ To be in good company.

Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya imparts education in moral and human values so as to develop man’s potentialities for doing good. This education teaches such knowledge and practices as to enable a person to have positive attitudes, emotional balance, self restraint, good behaviour, creative intelligence and better human relations. This education corrects imbalances in human personality, liberates human mind from various kinds of prejudices, promotes good will, the motives of service and public well being and spirit of world brotherhood. It enlightens a person about the consciousness and cosmos and about his place and role in the scheme of things and gives him the realisation of the self and an experience of bliss through Rajyog Meditation. It develops one's divine rationality, objectivity, integrity and a proper world views.