

## **CLASS-III**

Lesson 8 Air Conservation In The Vedas

Lesson 9 Fire (Energy)

Lesson 10 Conservation of Fire (Energy) In Vedas

Lesson 11 Sky (Space)





## 8

# AIR CONSERVATION IN THE VEDAS

Dear student, in the last lesson, you read about one of the elements of the five great elements i.e. air. In this lesson, you will read about the importance of air in the Vedas and conservation of air. It is not possible for us to survive without breathing in pure air, so it is very important to concentrate on conservation of air.



## OBJECTIVES

After reading this lesson you will be able

- To know the importance of air in Vedas; and
- To understand the basic spirit of air conservation in the Vedas.

## 8.1 IMPORTANCE AND CONSERVATION OF AIR IN VEDAS

In the Atharvaveda, mentioning the importance of air, it has been said that air helps in transporting the sky water everywhere, which brings prosperity in the Annadi.



Notes

उत्समक्षितं व्यचान्ति ये सदा य आसिक्रचनि रसमोषधीष,  
पुरो दधे मरुतः पृश्निमात्हंस्ते नो मुञ्चंत्वंहसः।

(Atharvaveda 4.27.2)

That is, those who carry the water through the air here and there in many ways, who take it to annadi medicines, I keep them in touch with the air deities that touch the matter and the sky. Such air deities release us from all sufferings.



Fig. 8.1

In the Vedas, giving respect to air, it has been said that the air protects us.

त्रायन्तां मरुतां गणः

(Rigveda 10.137.5)

In the imbalances happening in nature, there is a prayer in the Vedas against the rage form of air i.e. the storm, the loss which occurs from the storm; that O Lord of the Gods, our prayer is that you should always be friendly with everyone.

मरूतां मन्वे अधि मे ब्रुवन्त प्रेमं वाजं वाजवाते अवन्तु  
आशूनिव सुयमानद उतये तेवो मुञ्चन्त्वंहसः॥

(Atharvaveda 4.27.1)

That is, I will always remember in my mind the destructor of the air (wind). May that wind bless me and make everyone happy and capable to be able to give food. I have called beautiful winds like fast moving horses for my protection. May those winds grant us freedom from all sorrows.

Here the sage is requesting air (wind) to remain good.

Pointing to the concern of environmental security, the sage says that air (wind).! Do not harm the fields with trees (Annadi), tree-

यत्मीमन्तं न च्नुय

(Rigveda 1.37.6)

Air protects us from many types of disorders occurring in space. That is why the sage of the Rigveda prays that O Pavan protect us from the disturbances in Space

“पातु वातो अन्तरिक्षात्”

(Rigveda 10.158.1)

In the Atharvaveda, air has been described as a destroyer of filth and suffering.



Notes



Notes

आपो वायो सविता च दुष्कृतमय रक्षाणि निमिदां च मेघतम्।  
संहयूर्जया सृजयः संकलेन ता नो मुञ्चन्तवंहमः॥

(Atharvaveda 4.25.2)

That is, O air and Sun God, both of you together remove the filthiness here. Cure the diseases and remove the sufferings because both of you mix with spiritual satisfaction and with physical force. Therefore, give us freedom from sufferings and sorrows.

In this way, we see that oxygen has been called the pranavayu (deathbed) in the Vedas and it has been ordered that we should keep trying to conserve air i.e. to keep the air in pure form. We should not pollute the air and whoever pollutes such air, its crime is unforgivable.



Fig. 8.2

Stating the importance of air, it is said that air provides purity to all other things. It purifies the water. Therefore, the Vedas instruct us not to do any act which makes the air impure. We should keep our daily routine in such a way that we conserve air and we should not let even the least amount of air pollution happen.

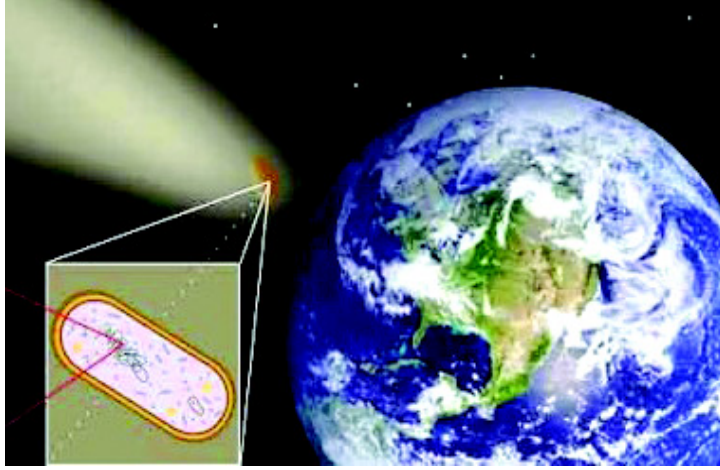
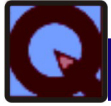


Fig. 8.3

The Vedas have been prayed to protect the Earth from ultraviolet and other poisonous gases coming into space.

In short it is said that, Vedic literature has placed a lot of emphasis on maintaining the purity of air.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.1

1. Fill in the blanks

- (A) त्रायन्तां ..... गणः।
- (B) यत्सीमन्तं न .....।
- (C) पातु ..... अन्तरिक्षात्।
- (D) आपो वायो ..... च दुष्कृतमय रक्षाणि।



### WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT

- Importance of air in Vedas
- the main way of conserving air in Vedas



Notes

**TERMINAL QUESTIONS**

1. Write the meaning of “पातु वायो अन्तरिक्षात्”
2. What is said in the Vedas about not polluting the air?

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****8.1**

1. (a) मरूताम्  
(b) चूनुधा  
(c) वातो  
(d) सविता



