

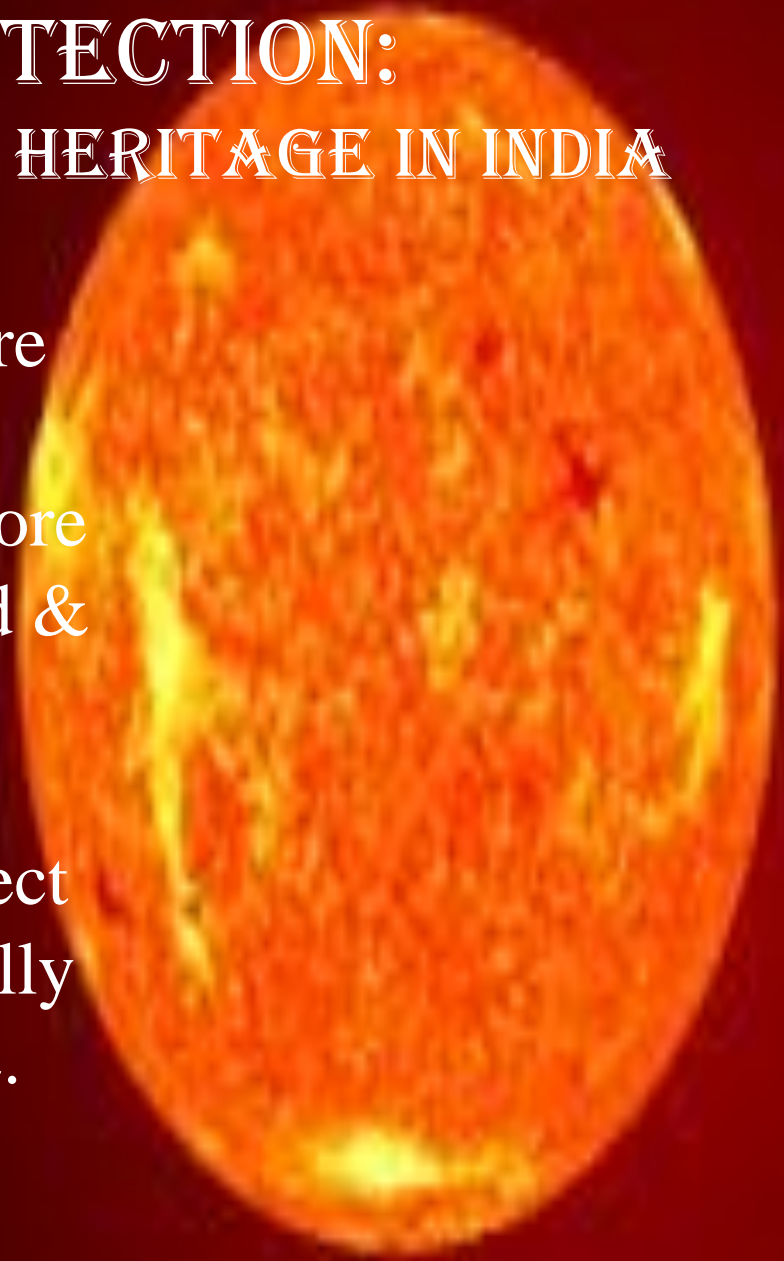
INDIAN TRADITION

DHARM & ENVIRONMENT

DR. PRATIMA V. BANDEWAR
ASST. PROFESSOR
NARAYANRAO CHAVAN LAW COLLEGE, NANDED

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL HERITAGE IN INDIA

- Sun- Centre of our Universe.
- Originally various planets were components of the Sun.
- Around 5000 millions yrs before some part of the Sun detached & went at a distance of around 150 crore kms.
- Separation gave a cooling effect to the detached part & gradually water appeared on the surface.



Earth

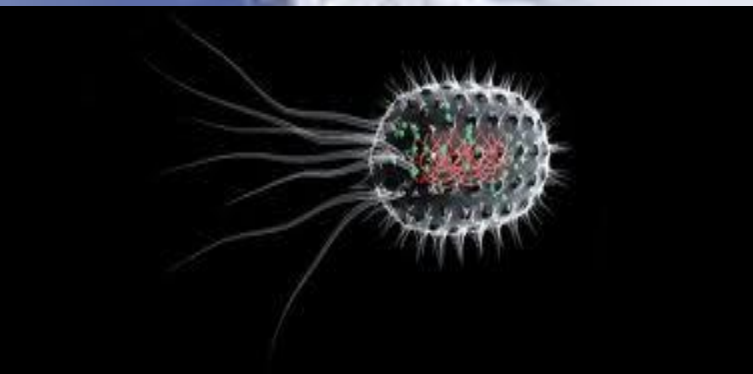
Sun

RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL HERITAGE: ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

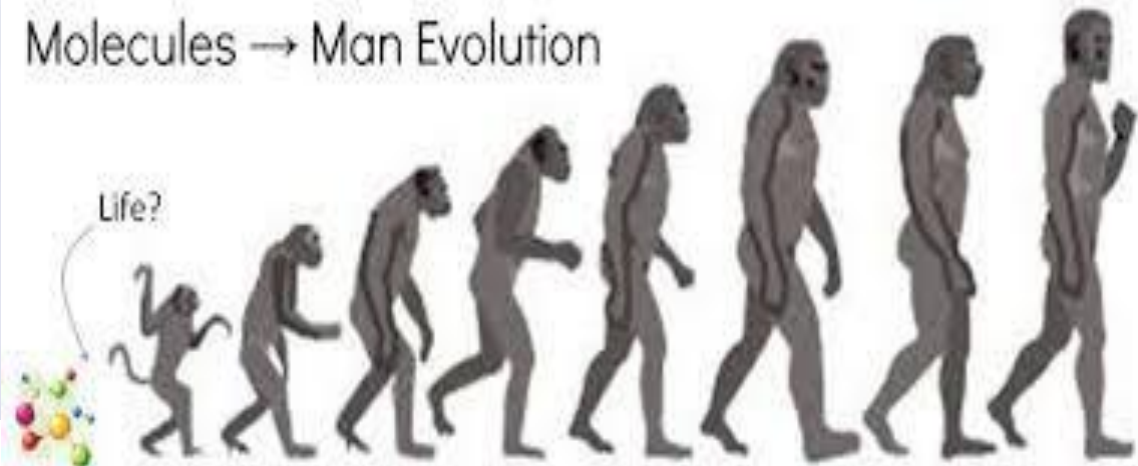
- Three thousand million yrs before, microscopic organisms appeared as first evidence of life.
- One thousand million yrs before, primitive land, plants & other creatures appeared.
- The planet came into being with primitive environment.
- Hundreds of centuries thereafter, by way of evolution, from Nature, human beings appeared on the Earth.



- Life on Earth originated between 3.5 and 4.0 billion years ago.
- The Earth formed about 4.5 billion years ago.
- The first organisms were **prokaryotes**.



Molecules → Man Evolution



Important Dates

years ago

4.5 Billion

Origin Of The Earth

3.5 Billion

Prokaryote Bacteria Dominate

2.5 Billion

Oxygen Accumulates In Atmosphere

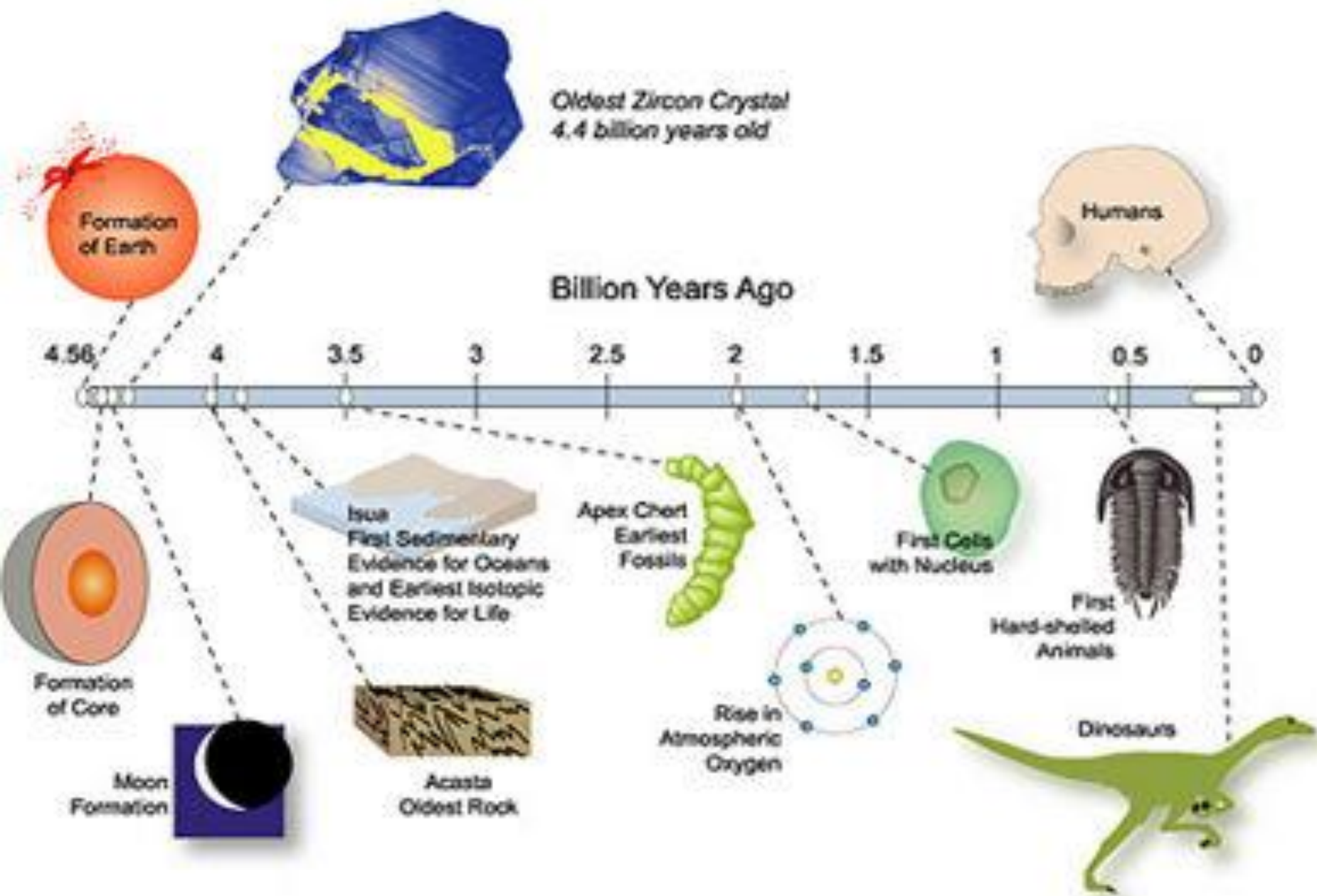
1.5 Billion

Eukaryotes—First Nucleated Cell

0.5 Billion

Cambrian Explosion Of Multicellular Eukaryote Organisms

Figure 1-1



TIMELINE OF HOMINID EVOLUTION

Millions of Years Ago

7

A. africanus

Arboreal apelike ancestor

5

Homo habilis

Terrestrial apelike ancestor

A. robustus

Lucy

3

A. boisei

2

H. erectus

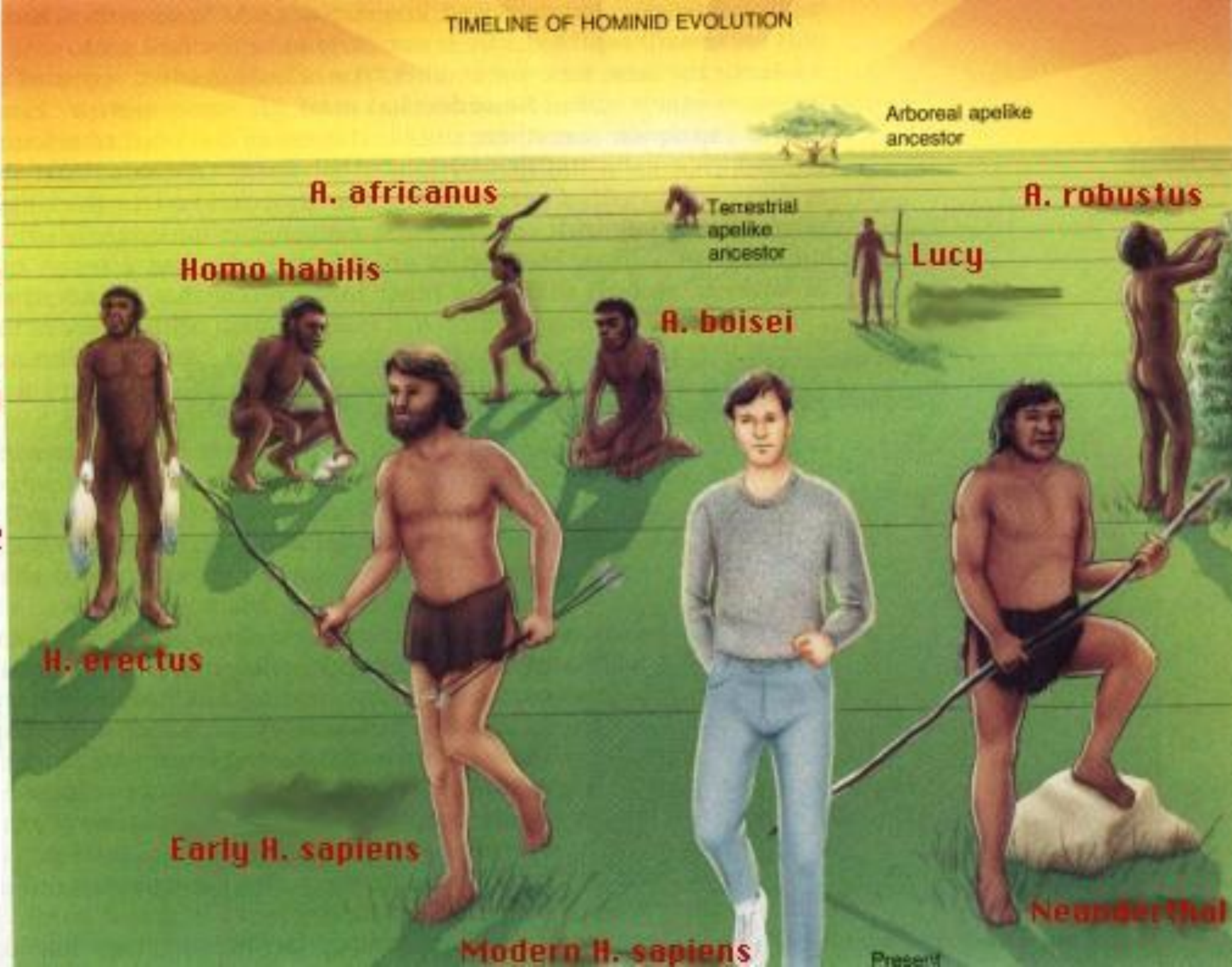
1

Early *H. sapiens*

Modern *H. sapiens*

Neanderthal

Present



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: CONCEPT OF GOD

- Before the mighty environment, human beings had no independent entity.
- Creation of Earth, magnificent environment and its numerous wonders were beyond the perception of human beings.
- This developed the concept of God.
- The Superpower- as creator & regulator of the Earth & all the plants and living creatures.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

- Holds Bramha as – Creator of the Universe.
- Bramha settled the process of creation. He has been a jurist & legislator (Vidhata) who formulated rules of conduct of the entire universe.
- Bramha formulated the rule that- the Earth revolves around itself & also moves around Sun, which brings days & nights & seasons respectively.
- A rule of Bramha ordains that every component of nature has to move towards its principal source.
- It is known as Panchmahabhuta.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

- Every component of Nature moves towards its principal source.
- Atma(soul) moves towards Bramha
- Water moves towards ocean.
- Air moves towards sky (Vayu mandal).
- Earth moves towards land.
- Fire moves towards Sun.



Panchmahabhuta

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

Hinduism & Environment



- 1. Ecological Awareness in Hinduism
- It is clear that the most ancient texts on Hinduism demonstrate through the praise of the deities an ecological awareness and great respect for the natural world.

"Do not cut trees, because they remove pollution."

[Rig Veda, 6:48:17]

"Do not disturb the sky and do not pollute the atmosphere." *[Yajur Veda, 5:43]*

Destruction of forests is taken as destruction of the state, and reforestation an act of rebuilding the state and advancing its welfare. Protection of animals is considered a sacred duty.

[Charak Samhita]

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

- ❑ **Hindu Mythology** hold Sun as **Agni Devta**(God of Fire).
- ❑ Sun bears enormous heat & has been a constant source of energy for the entire Universe.
- ❑ **Upanishads** described fire as an abstract form in various processes.
- ❑ **Vedic thought-** Fire is represented as the life principle. It is held as first & everlasting substance.
- ❑ **Water** is described as Jeevan i.e. life.
- ❑ Water is accepted as cause of the Earth.
- ❑ Water is strength of the planet & a source of energy for every living organism.
- ❑ Water is madhu or sap of the Earth.



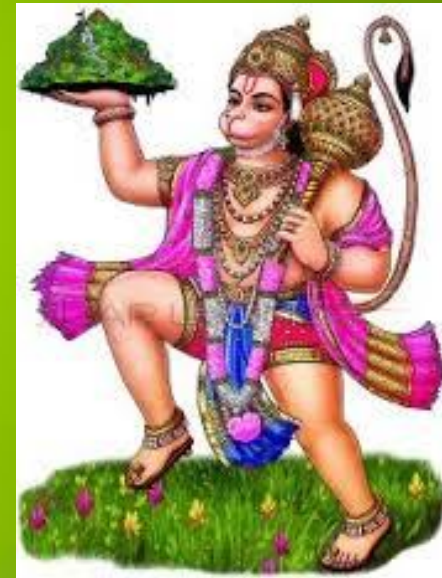
ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

- ❑ **Wind** is natural & inexhaustible source of energy and considered to be God (Vayu Devta).
- ❑ **Upanishads** described wind as fuel of the fire.
- ❑ **Forest**- a source of natural energy.
- ❑ Forest provide life support & is held as Godess(Van-devi).

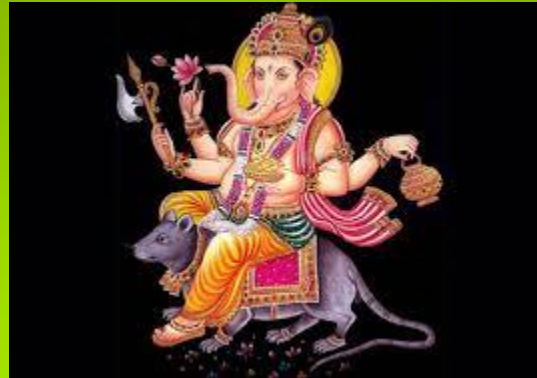


ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

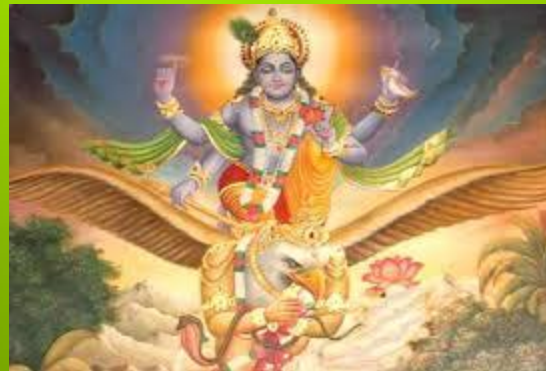
- ❑ Hinduism hold fish **Matsya**' as God being the first living creature on the Earth.
- ❑ Darwin's theory maintains that human race came by the evolution from the species of monkey. Hindu mythology recognize **Hanuman** (king of monkeys) as a God & a symbol of strength.
- ❑ **Cow**-held as sacred(Gomata)



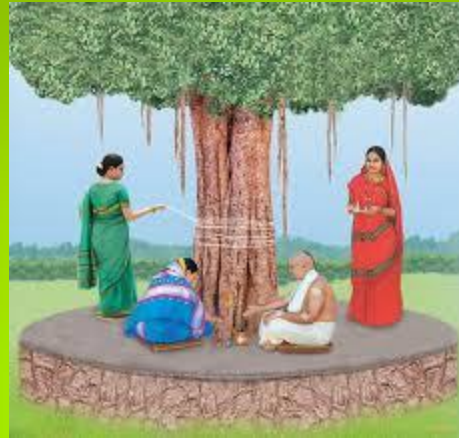
ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM



Vehicles of God
(Vahanas)



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM



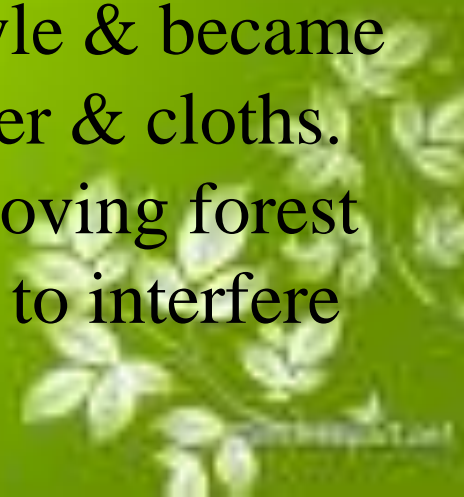
Worshiping of plants



Worshiping of animals

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

- ❑ Hindu mythology recognizes omnipotence as well as omnipresence of God.
- ❑ It preaches-every species & plant bear an element of God.
- ❑ It follows-damage to any part of environment is an injury or insult to God.
- ❑ Like other living creatures, humankind also continued to be nomadic & was inseparable from nature. Several centuries thereafter, man changed his lifestyle & became domesticated & felt the need for food, shelter & cloths.
- ❑ To accomplish these needs, they started removing forest for agriculture & inhabitation & thus began to interfere in the domain of environment.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: HINDUISM

- Location of Temples & Shrines-
- located in remote places, in forests or on mountains.
- belief- God has a nearness with the nature
- people do not dare to interfere with with the surroundings of temples & shrines.
- this promoted the conservation of forests & wildlife.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: KAUTILYA:

WATER IN ANCIENT INDIA

- The reference of rain-gauges are available in *Arthashastra* of *Kautilya* (400 B.C), and *Astadhyayi* of *Panini* (700 B.C).
- The quantity of rain-fall in various parts of India was also known to *Kautilya*. Indians were acquainted with the cyclonic and orographic effects on rain-fall, radiation and convectional heating of earth.
- Various other phenomena of infiltration, interception, stream-flow, geomorphology, artesian wells and erosive action of water were well understood.



- Necessity of forest administration was realized in the **Chandra Gupt Maurya's** period.
- During this period there were law provisions in Kautaliyas *Arthshastra*.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: KAUTILYA:

- ❑ Kautilya in his Arthashastra exhaustively dealt with the environmental protection.
- ❑ He laid down various rules for protection & up gradation of environment.



Kautilya (350 B.C - 283 B.C)

The Arthshashtra contains provisions meant to regulate a number of aspects related to the environment.

Environmental Policy In India Ancient India

➤ The *Arthashastra* by Kautilya, written as early as between 321 and 300 BC, contained provisions meant to regulate a number of aspects related to the environment.

➤ The fifth pillar edict of Emperor Ashoka also contains such regulations

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: KAUTILYA:

- ❑ Kautilya in his Arthashastra exhaustively dealt with the environmental protection.
- ❑ He laid down various rules for protection & up gradation of environment.
- ❑ They were-rules to protect forests & animals.
 - prohibition to kill/injure certain animals & birds.
 - prohibition on hunting of wild animals.
 - requirement to set new forests
 - severe penaulty for offenders.
 - penaulties for disturbing water source, garden, highway or felling or cutting trees.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: KING ASHOKA:

Environmental Management

- King Ashoka is the first one who comes to our mind if we talk on ancient environment management
- Planting the trees on either sides of the road was an innovative idea for present generations
- For the passengers who were traveling and for environmental cause
- Trees are being named after his name Ashoka.



I have enforced the law against killing certain animals and many others, but the greatest progress of righteousness among men comes from the exhortation in favor of non-injury to life and abstention from killing living beings.

(Ashoka)

ixquotes.com

✓ *King Ashoka (300 BC) erected the first known veterinary hospitals of the world.*

(Schwabe, 1978)

✓ *He arranged cultivation of herbal medicines for men and animals in his empire .*

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: KING ASHOK:

- Ashok depicted exemplary compassion for wild life.
- Curtailed consumption of non-veg food by Royal palace.
- Provided medical facilities to animals.
- During later part of his regime, King Ashok had completely prohibited killing of certain species of creatures.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: SIKHISM:

a) Balihari Kudrat vasia tera anth na jayi lakhiya

God resides in nature or environment and it is not possible to fathom your end
(SGGJ, p. 469)

b) Apineh ap sajio apineh rachi nao.

Self (God) created self. Self assumed a Name.

Duyi kudrat sajiay kar asan ditho chao.

Second, fashioned the Kudrat (creation - nature and environment);
seated within Kudrat, beholds it with delight.

--

Sache tere khand sache brahmand.

True are Your worlds, True are Your solar Systems.

Sache tere loh sache akar ----

True are Your realms, True is Your creation.

Sachi teri kudrat sache patshah.

True is Your Kudrat, True King (SGGJ, p.463)

c) Paun pani dharti akas ghar mandar har bani.

Air, water, earth and sky - the Lord has made these home and temple

vich vartai Nanak ap jhuth kaho kia gani

God is pervading everywhere, O Nanak. Tell me: what can be counted as false? (SGGJ, p. 723)

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: SIKHISM:

a) Pavan Guroo Paanee Pitaa Maataa Dharat Mahat
Air is Guru, Water is father, and vast earth is mother (SGGJ, p. 8).

b) Kudrat paun paṇi baisantar kudrat dharti khak
By God's creation wind, water and fire exist; by God's creation earth and dust exist
Sabh teri kudrat tunh kadir karta paka nai pak
Everything is in Your Power, Lord; You are the all-powerful Creator. Your Name is the
Holiest of the Holy (SGGJ, p. 464).

c) Pahila paṇi jio hai jit haria sabh koe
First, there is life in the water, by which everything else is made green (SGGJ, p. 472)

d) Jal hi te sabh upjai bin jal pias na jae.
From water, everything is produced; without water, thirst is not quenched (SGGJ, p. 1420).

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: SACRIFICE BY BISHNOI:

•THE BISHNOI IS A NON VIOLENT COMMUNITY OF NATURE WORSHIPPERS OF RAJASTHAN IN WESTERN INDIA

•FOUNDED BY GURU JAMBHESHWAR BEFORE 1451 AFTER A DRAUGHT IN THE MARWAR REGION OF RAJASTHAN.

•THE GURU DIRECTED THE WORSHIP OF LORD VISHNU ,THUS THE SECT IS CALLED VISHNOI OR BISHNOI.

•THE BISHNOIS FOLLOW 29 PRINCIPLES GIVEN BY GURU JAMBHESHWAR WHICH WERE NOT ONLY TAILORED TO CONSERVE BIO-DIVERSITY OF THE AREA BUT ALSO ENSURED ECO- FRIENDLY SOCIAL LIFE.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: SACRIFICE BY BISHNOI:

Bishnoi community in Rajasthan



- The Bishnoi faith is a religious offshoot of Hinduism founded on 29 principles, most of which promote environmental stewardship.
- Bishnoi's strictly forbid the harming of trees and animals.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: SACRIFICE BY BISHNOI:



•IN 1731 AMRITA DEVI, A BISHNOI WOMAN WHO ALONG WITH MORE THAN 363 OTHER BISHNOIS DIED SAVING THE KHEJRALI TREES.

•ALL KILLED WERE BURIED IN KHEJRALI VILLAGE NEAR JODHPUR.

•IN SEP, THEY COMMEMORATE THE EXTREME SACRIFICE MADE BY THEIR PEOPLE.

•GOVT OF INDIA RECENTLY INSTITUTED AN "AMRITA DEVI BISHNOI NATIONAL AWARD FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION" IN THE MEMORY OF AMRITA DEVI.



Amrita Devi Bishnoi

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:



Sant Tukaram

- Trees & plants are kiths & Kins.
- Depicts richest prudence.



Shivaji Maharaj

- Ordained plantation by roadside.
- Issued Aadnyapatra to preserve Forest & water sources.
- Planted & Nurtured fruit bearing trees like children.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: ISLAM:

Islam & Environment



- **The Environment, as God's Creation, Must Be Respected**
- Islam, as a way of life expects human beings to conserve the environment for several reasons.
- Some of the reasons why?
 - God is its creator.
 - humans act as the agents of God on earth
 - no other creature is able to perform this task. Humans are the only beings that God has "entrusted" with the responsibility of looking after the earth. This trusteeship is seen by Islam to be so onerous and burdensome that no other creature could 'accept' it.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

ISLAM:

Prophet's Teachings^(pbuh)

- "Whoever reclaims and cultivates dry, barren land will be rewarded by Allah for the act. So long as men and animals benefit from it He will record it for him as almsgiving."
- "If a Muslim plants a tree, that part of its produce consumed by men will be as almsgiving for him. Any fruit stolen from the tree will also be as almsgiving for him. That which the birds eat will also be as almsgiving for him. Any of its produce which people may eat thus diminishing it, will be as almsgiving for the Muslims who planted it."
- "If a Muslim plants a tree, then whatever is eaten from it by birds is a charity and whatever is stolen is a charity"

Islam and the Environment



Islam teaches us to protect our environment at all costs. The Prophet Muhammad established the first Islamic city state of Medina as an environmental reservation, thus associating its sanctity with the environment. He said: "It is sacred and none of its trees may be cut, except for a man feeding his camel"

(Sahih Bukhari)

The Prophet (Peace be upon him) also said:

"If a Muslim plants a seedling or cultivates a field, whenever a bird a human or an animal eats of it, it will be counted as a charity for him"

(Bukhari)



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: ISLAM:

Islamic Approach to the Environment

Creation & Ownership

Islam describes the environment and teaches us that it has been created by Allah

Humans and Environment

Islam prescribes how humanity should use the environment

Proactive Care

Islamic teachings are meant to take proactive care of the environment

Preservation & Protection

Islam's guidance form the principles of Environmental Protection

Prophet's ^(pbuh) Example

Environmentalism has been taught and demonstrated by the Prophet ^(pbuh)

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

ISLAM:

- ❑ Quran says- Don't make any mischief in the Earth.
- ❑ Islam recognized invaluable bounties of Nature.
- ❑ Quran declared- Allah created the heaven & Earth. From clouds, he released water. He made rivers and mountains on Earth.
- ❑ Quran proclaims- Destruction of Nature is destruction of the Aayat of Allah.
- ❑ Islam warns- to cause damage to nature is defiance of the command of Allah.
- ❑ Islam held- Duty of every man is to safeguard the present health of Universe & recover the health that has been lost.
- ❑ Islamic belief refer man as custodian of Nature.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: JAINISM:



The ancient Jain scriptural aphorism

- Parasparopgraho Jivänäm –

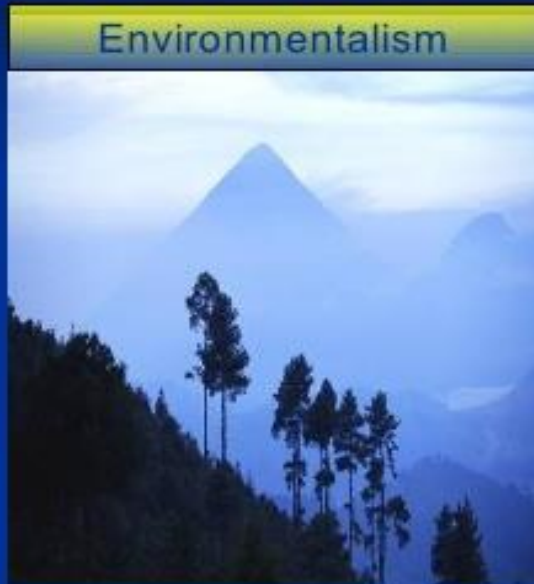
– *Tattvärtha Sutra*

All life is bound together by mutual support and interdependence (If one does not care for nature one does not care for oneself)

- Refreshingly contemporary in its premise and in its promise.
- Forms the basis of the modern day science of ecology.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: JAINISM:

What does Jainism Teach about Ecology?



- Non-Possessiveness / Aparigraha
- Self-restraint is the second most important Jain principle.
- Minimizing consumption provides respect for others' life and environment.
- Reuse / Recycle Products – Do not waste the gifts of nature.
- Share resources.
- Nature provides enough for our NEED, but not enough for our GREED.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: JAINISM:

- ❑ Jain scripture tells- Do not injure, abuse or press, enslave insult, torment, torture & kill any creature or any living being.
- ❑ Lord Mahaveer proclaimed- One who neglects or disregards the existence of Earth, air, water, fire & vegetation, he disregards his own existence.
- ❑ This message of Mahaveer has been an ecological command.
- ❑ Principle of simplicity is adopted.
- ❑ Jainism prohibits captivity, whipping, sacrifice & overloading of animals.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: BUDDHISM:

Buddhism & *Environment*



- **The interdependence of all things**
 - strongly emphasizes the **interdependence of all entities and events**. There is no entity animate or inanimate and no event however trivial which is not in some way interconnected with every other.

- **Coexistence rather than Conquest**
 - The aim that Buddhism instills in every individual mind is **emancipation** from suffering.
 - Conquest of the natural environment, of other species or of other groups of the human family is hence the very reverse of the ideals which Buddhism teaches.
 - **Co-existence is vital** and this requires a recognition and respect of those other species and groups and not an attempt at dominance.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: BUDDHISM:



Oneness of Self and Environment

- All life has an environment in which it functions and all of that physical reality is also a wave.
- To understand life is to understand that a human life is inseparable from its environment. And our life itself is an environment for other people.
- To live a life based on this understanding is to live a life ultimately of compassion. I cannot become indestructibly happy by myself, because I **don't exist by myself**.
- That what Nichiren Daishonin called "Dependant Origination":
 - we cannot have a manifest life without other lives to support us. All life sustains my life and makes it possible for me to have life.
- So, our environment and us are deeply interconnected. When I change myself - my environments changes!
- Buddhism says, my environment is a reflection of myself. When I don't like my environment, my circumstances, I have to search **INSIDE** what is in me that is reflected in undesirable for me way?

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: BUDDHISM:

- ❑ Basic tenets of Buddhism- Simplicity & Non-violence.
- ❑ Simplicity is based on principle of sustainability.
- ❑ Non-violence denotes love for flora & fauna.
- ❑ Gautam Buddha- the greatest rationalist, environmentalist humanist of that era.
- ❑ Buddha derived eternal enlightenment while meditating under the Bodhi tree.
- ❑ Buddhism preaches- to respect the norms of Nature.
- ❑ It believes in non-separable relationship of man with trees which is a potential source of food & shelter.
- ❑ Gautam Buddha preached- compassion towards every living creature.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: CHRISTIANITY:

Environmental Ethics in Christian History

- Until the last few decades there have been few examples of environmental awareness in the Christian tradition
- Not prominent in the mainstream of Christian thought and practice until quite recently
- With the advent of a global concern for ecology Christian theology has embraced environmental ethics in a substantial response
- Christian theologians are now making more substantial use of the biblical reflections on creation as well as the work of historical figures such as Francis of Assisi, Hildegard of Bingen and Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: CHRISTIANITY:

Christianity & Environment



Some have sought a way forward from within a transformed **Christian** tradition based on the inspiration of **St Francis of Assisi**, or on the idea of **stewardship**.

Principle of Environmental Stewardship

- **God Created the Earth and All of Nature in it**
John 1:3. Through Him all things were made: without Him nothing was made that has been made.
- **God Teaches Humans through Nature**
Isaiah 11:9. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.



ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: CHRISTIANITY:

What the Bible says about environmental issues

- The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Psalms 19:1

- The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

Psalms 24: 1

- Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

Genesis 1: 26

- The land must never be sold on a permanent basis, for the land belongs to me. You are only foreigners and tenant farmers working for me.

Leviticus 25: 23

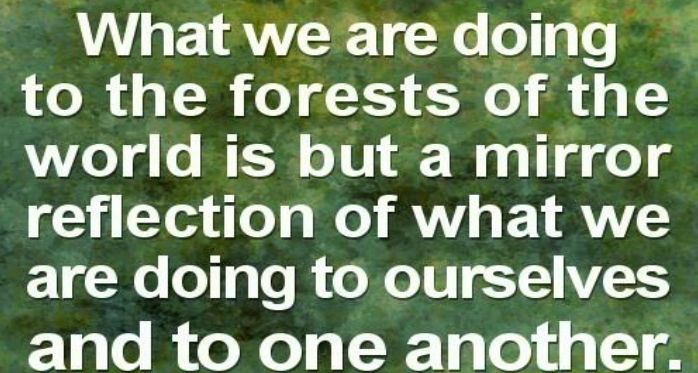
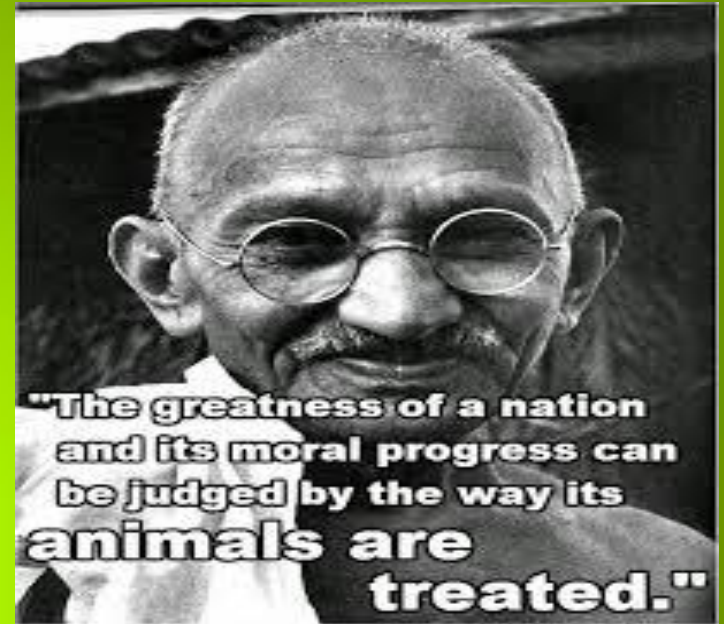
ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: MAHATMA GANDHI:

Principle of oneness

- No separation of life and environment is the basic principle of ecology
- The environment and life are two aspects of the same reality (save the planet?)
- Only by transforming ourselves we can affect our environment (to activate the environment)

"Be the change you wish to see"

M. Gandhi

A background image of a lush green forest with sunlight filtering through the trees. Overlaid on this is a quote in white text.

What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another.

Mahatma Gandhi
thethingswesay.com

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: MAHATMA GANDHI:

Mahatma Gandhi on Environmental Pollution

[Mahatma Gandhi](#) had said that nature has enough to satisfy everyone's need but has not enough to satisfy man's greed.

Sadly our ever-expanding greed has put us in such precarious situation. Will we realise it? The policy of industrialization had helped rich to become richer and poor become poorer. The disparity has widened. It is the democratic system followed in the country which has forced our policy-makers to think of growth for all. That is why we are hearing plans for inclusive growth. Industrialization is not without price. All these have a direct bearing on environmental pollution leading to climatic change. We are all witness to the deleterious effects of climate change.

The whole world is now anxious to repair the damage.

ANCIENT & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: MAHATMA GANDHI:

- ❑ Gandhiji preached non-violence against mankind as well as against every living creature.
- ❑ He pleaded for disarmament as possession of arms makes man violent & then Nature becomes its first victim.
- ❑ He sensed the danger from industrialization and began the movement of Swadeshi.
- ❑ Charkha i. e. (spinning wheel) was a symbol of swadeshi.
- ❑ It produces clothes without any scope for any pollution.
- ❑ He appealed for cottage industry.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

MEDIEVAL ERA:

- ❑ Medieval era was the beginning of degradation of environment.
- ❑ This era was dominated by physical might & ruthlessness towards persons & creatures.
- ❑ Killing of wild animals was the warrior spirit.
- ❑ To escape from barbaric attacks, the natives growingly took shelter of forests & mountains. Forests became regular habitat for them. It sufficiently damaged the forests as well as wild life.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

MEDIEVAL ERA:

- ❑ Till the end of 19th century, world population mostly had been inhabited in rural areas.
- ❑ Principally, India had an agricultural base & population then by & large was spread over in villages.
- ❑ Cultivation, animal husbandry and cottage industry were economic enterprises. India had been close and respectful with Nature.
- ❑ Later, factory system began to operate in India & gradually liquidated cottage industries.
- ❑ World wars demonstrated man's ability to destruct control & rule the environment.
- ❑ From 1918, industrialization began in India.
- ❑ This caused a total upset of Indian setup.





INDIAN FESTIVALS AND ENVIRONMENT

FESTIVALS & ENVIRONMENT:

- ❑ Many plants are associated with religious ceremonies.
(Baniyan tree, Mango tree, Aamla tree, Coconut tree, Tulsi, Beal, banana, different flowers etc.)
- ❑ These plants are important as medicine in Ayurved.
- ❑ Many animals & birds are associated with God & Goddess.
- ❑ On many festivals, different trees, animals are worshiped.



FESTIVALS & ENVIRONMENT:



नारळी पौर्णिमा

सागराची पूजा
म्हणजेच वरुणदेवतेची पूजा !



FESTIVALS & POLLUTION

- ❑ Use of loudspeakers during festivals causes noise pollution.
- ❑ During many festivals pollution is caused-
 - Ganpati festival: noise, water, air pollution
 - Navratri festival: noise, water, air
 - Holi festival: water pollution, harmful colours
 - Diwali festival: noise, air pollution
 - Christmas: air, noise pollution
 - Mohr am & Eid: noise, water pollution



POISONOUS

- Artificial colours are highly structured polymers that are difficult to decompose biologically
- Colours used during Holi are prepared from harmful substances such as acids, mica, glass powder and alkalis
- Chemicals used can cause itching & rashes which can lead to dermatitis

Celebrate a eco-friendly holi

Ideally, the joyous festival of holi is meant to celebrate the arrival of spring while the colours used in holi are used to reflect the various hues of spring season.

But unfortunately in modern times, holi does not stand for all beautiful things. Like other festivals, holi has also become ruthlessly commercialized, boisterous and another source of environmental degradation.

FESTIVALS & POLLUTION

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS ABOUT HOLI

- ❑ The use of toxic chemical colours.
- ❑ The use of wood for burning Holi fires.
- ❑ The wasteful use of water during Holi.

© backcountryaltitude.com



FESTIVALS & POLLUTION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- ❑ Contamination Of Water bodies.
- ❑ Noise pollution - An unfortunate outcome of this joyous festival.
- ❑ Soil pollution due to dumping of 'Nirmalya'.



FESTIVALS & POLLUTION

During the freedom movement


Lokmanya Tilak

The Fiery freedom fighter, a great Indian Scholar & social reformer transformed this purely religious annual festival into a well-organized Socio-Political Public event to provide a platform to unite & motivate the youth and the masses to come together against the British Government and demand the Right to self Rule

In 1893, He installed idol of "Lord Ganesh, deity of Wisdom to symbolise the peoples aspirations for Socio-cultural and Political change in the society & also to bridge the gap between 'Brahmins' and 'non-Brahmins' so that the Freedom movement gets momentum



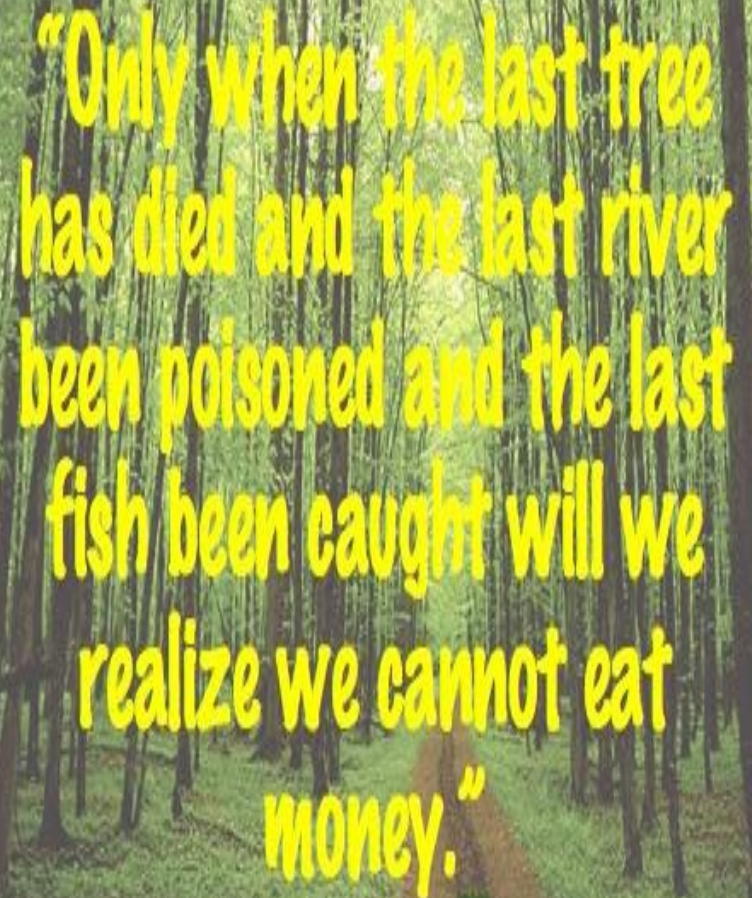
FESTIVALS & POLLUTION



Let us be good stewards of the Earth we inherited. All of us have to share the Earth's fragile ecosystems and precious resources, and each of us has a role to play in preserving them.

If we are to go on living together on this earth, we must all be responsible for it.

Kofi Annan



"Only when the last tree has died and the last river been poisoned and the last fish been caught will we realize we cannot eat money."