



## What is “Vedic”?

### What is the Veda?

The Veda, the source of all existence, is born out of one and only one thing. It lies beyond relativity, beyond the realm of things, and is therefore sometimes referred to as “no-thingness.” It is called “pure Is-ness” or “pure Consciousness.” Some call it “the Unified Field” of physics. Others call it “God.” All things, including the Veda, are born out of the self-interacting dynamic of that Oneness... pure Consciousness interacting with and becoming aware of itself, over and over again. It has been compared to the emptiness in the center of the seed (no-thingness) that births the seed (the Veda), which births the entire tree (existence). Yet, at the same time, by the very nature of Is-ness, Veda exists eternally, within that pure Is-ness (pure Consciousness, the Absolute). All Knowledge of the tree of existence is contained within that Oneness, that Is-ness, that Unified Field.



### What is a Vedic Pandit?

The self-interacting dynamic of pure Consciousness, the Veda, is eternally pulsating at the depth of existence. In ancient times, when the atmosphere was pure, Rishis refined their physiology to the extent that they could tap into this deep level of life. Those Rishis were capable of allowing the pulsations of Veda to well up through their physiology all the way to the physical level. This cognition process began from deep within the Rishis and went out through their vocal cords into the air as sound. That sound then entered from outside the listener and went into the depth of the listener’s being.



Schools were created to train Pandits, people who memorize what was chanted by those Rishis. The Pandits passed down these chants orally from generation to generation, preserving the cognitions of the Rishis for people to hear throughout the ages. When Pandits chant the Veda, the vibrations reawaken deeper levels within the listener, enlivening the listener’s innate source of wholeness and fulfillment. Therefore, when Pujas and Havans are performed with precise adherence to Vedic tradition, they become a powerful tool to facilitate the health and evolution of the listener.

### What is Vedic Technology?

There is a principle in mathematics called “mapping.” The healing modality of reflexology offers a simple example: the foot maps onto the body, the big toe maps onto the head, the arch maps onto the spine, etc. Remarkably, any part of the body can be addressed by treating its corresponding location on the foot. Applying the principle of mapping to

the topic of Vedic ceremony, the physical Murthis (images of the gods) correlate with (map onto) the operators (gods) contained within the Unified Field. The materials (flowers, camphor, etc.) used in the ceremonies map onto different principles or values contained within the Veda. Nothing is arbitrary. It is a technology based upon mapping, every bit as precise and well-defined as the technologies of modern science.

Life has two aspects: the heart and the mind, the subjective and the objective. Western technology is based solely upon the objective, whereas Vedic technology embraces both heart and mind.

### **Why Perform a Vedic Ceremony?**

Vedic ceremony procedures embrace and uphold the subjective aspect on all levels of existence. Just as the cells and material comprising your body have a personified correlate, you; the laws of nature have a personified correlate, the Gods. This personified aspect of life is the domain of the subjective. You, of course, identify with your personified aspect, not the protons, neutrons, and electrons that make up your body. You are a subjective being; that is who you are.



Mother Nature has a psyche all her own. All the laws of nature have their own unique psychological makeup. Your nature is one with Mother Nature. All the laws of nature, all the gods, dwell within you. By performing these ceremonies as prescribed in the Shastras, your psyche is purified and attuned to the psyche of the Divine.

### **What is Vedic Tradition?**

When a culture is healthy, the wisdom of the ages is passed down from one generation to the next as tradition. If a culture becomes unhealthy, the wisdom underlying the traditions becomes lost or misunderstood. Unfortunately, those echoes of the underlying Truth are still perceived and passed on as Truth.

We live in a time of logic and science. To be embraced, things must make sense. If they do not make sense, they will be rejected. This is what is happening to religions and their traditions. They have ceased to make sense to the younger generation. Having to choose between uncertain faith and logic, they choose logic.

Many find Vedic knowledge too foreign to the traditions and indoctrinations they were brought up with and therefore reject it. Interestingly enough, people who were brought up in the Vedic tradition often are simply indoctrinated into it and have not really looked at it deeply. Though they would disagree, they have not found it within themselves. It is just that the indoctrination has reached deeply within them. Their children may see it as indoctrination that makes no sense and therefore reject it, even if those parents think they are passing on pure Vedic tradition.

Vedic Knowledge, when not found within, over time reduces down to indoctrination, just another religion. In the deepest sense of the word, Veda is, by definition, Truth. Truth is revealed to the Self, by the Self, and through the Self. Each generation, each child, must find it within himself.

## What is a Vedic Temple?

There are many things that can prevent a temple from being a Vedic temple. Firstly, Sthapatya Veda (Vastu) must be strictly adhered to. It must be understood that the technology has to be followed with scientific precision. People understand this with respect to mechanics or electronics. However, because the temple is dealing with a far more subtle level of science (Vedic science), the guidelines must be executed with even greater precision than with an automobile or cell phone. All too often, this is not done. Deities for different types of temples are mixed under one roof, or improper materials are used, or any other of a countless number of Vastu guidelines are simply not utilized. Everybody knows that if you do that with a car or cell phone, it will just not work. Few understand that with respect to a temple.

A second reason a temple may not be a Vedic temple is because of cultural pressure. As Adi Shankara said, “The Knowledge must be purified by every generation.” Otherwise, superstitions or economic, cultural, and personal distortions just naturally creep in. This has been the fate of many Hindu temples. People may want a certain deity added to a temple because their temple back home had that deity. Oftentimes, such pressures force the temple to move in a non-Vedic direction.

Even in India, temples have built additions without following the mathematical guidelines for the original temple. Having the addition adhere to Sthapatya Veda is not enough. Different Vedic specifications can be correctly used for different temples. However, they must not be combined in the same one temple.

When we interviewed Vedic Pandits for Sri Somesvara Temple, they were both shocked and delighted when we told them that the Pandits, not the donors, will run the temples at Mount Soma. The Pandits are the ones with the knowledge, yet they rarely run a temple without being pressured by the donors. That pressure is enough to prevent a temple from being a Vedic temple.

Surprisingly, many of the requirements of a Vedic temple are considered to be old-fashioned or no longer appropriate, and are therefore dismissed. This is common among temple attendees in both the U.S. and India. That is enough to compromise the effectiveness of the temple. It is easy to consider a temple to be a Vedic temple, yet true Vedic temples are far rarer than one may think.

Vedic technology has the potential to bring fulfillment and abundance to all aspects of life. One may wonder then, why India, the land of the Veda, has such poverty. If Vedic principles had been adhered to properly throughout India’s history, the integrity of the culture would be invincible. The current state of affairs stands as proof that the Knowledge unfortunately has been compromised.

As Adi Shankara said, “Vedic Knowledge must be purified by every generation.” When the purity of the Knowledge is maintained, all of life will reach its full potential. Temples will shine more brightly as beacon lights for all of humanity. Life will rise to the level of prosperity, peace, abundance, and happiness.

As predicted by Lord Krishna, we are now entering that time of prosperity... Sat Yuga in the midst of Kali Yuga. We, at Mount Soma, are committed to bringing this forth.

