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INTRODUCTION OF EDITORIAL

Vidyottama Sanâtana, is derived from Sanskrit, namely *vidya* + *uttama* + *sanâtana*; *vidya* means ‘knowledge’, *uttama* means ‘eminent’ and *sanâtana* means ‘eternal’. Those three words refer to the word ‘*Veda*’ which means ‘the eternal knowledge’. There are two types of knowledge implied in the meaning of word *Veda* or ‘*Vidyottama Sanâtana*’, those are *parâvidyâ* and *aparâvidyâ*; *parâvidyâ* is the knowledge which is beyond the ‘positivistic epistemology level’. In other words, *parâvidyâ* is the knowledge that goes beyond the logical positivistic framework which is based on the truth of the five senses. *Parâvidyâ* is the “spiritual” knowledge which guarantees the achievement of human life that is the realization of the self-awareness which allows one to achieve unity with God. This is one of the contents of *parâvidyâ* knowledge. In other hand, *aparâvidyâ* is the knowledge that is in accordance with the Western terms, which is called “positivistic knowledge” which then gave birth to ‘science’ and ‘technology’. That is the nature or meaning contained in the word *Veda* and also *Vidyottama Sanâtana*.

The above description is in accordance with the *Mundaka Upanisad* I.1.4 which states that: “There are two kinds of knowledge that should be understood and practiced equally by mankind, as stated by a wise man who has understood the nature of *Brahman*, that there are two kinds of knowledge, the higher knowledge called spiritual or metaphysical knowledge (*parâvidyâ*) and the lower knowledge called scientific knowledge or science and technology (*aparâvidyâ*). One would become intelligent and religious human by mastering both kinds of knowledge *parâvidyâ* and *aparâvidyâ*. This description is aligned with Albert Einstein’s statement when the world suffered from a catastrophic bombing in World War II. Einstein said that: ‘*science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind*’. Since Einstein’s saying became a popular, the intellectual community began to realize the importance of religion and the focus back to the religious and spiritual knowledge. What was realized and stated by Einstein had been formatted into one single Hindu knowledge structure which is called *parâvidyâ* and *aparâvidyâ*, and that is *Veda*.

This *Vidyottama Sanâtana* international journal is using ‘*kalpa v[ksa*’ (mythological tree) stated in ‘*Itihasa*’, ‘*Purana*’ and ‘*Upanishad*’ manuscripts in the form of a banyan tree which roots are in the sky while the twigs and leaves stuck into the earth, used as a symbol of this international journal. The symbol and description of *kalpa v[ksa* tree also contain a meaning that world knowledge (science and technology) is sourced from the God, as stated in *Bhagavadgita*, *sloka* IX.17.

The tree of knowledge that originates in the Hindu Vedas has a unique shape and epistemology structure, which differ from the epistemology structure of the Western knowledge. Western tradition explicitly separates between *parâvidyâ* (spiritual knowledge) and *aparâvidyâ* (secular, science and technology); otherwise the Eastern tradition (Hindu) precisely, holistically and harmoniously integrates those two types of knowledge. At the beginning, the West does not recognize the typology and epistemology structure of Hindu knowledge, but later, in line with the advances in science and technology, the West begin to accept it. This was initiated by the awareness of Einstein’s religious needs, and also the recognition of the West against Hindu sciences such as Arthur Schopenhauer, a German philosopher who wants to die pillowed by *Upanishads* manuscripts. It is similar to Carl Edward Sagan, an American scientist, an expert in the field of astronomy, cosmology, Astrophysics, and Astrobiology. He greatly admired Hindu cosmology and declared that there is no knowledge structure cosmology as powerful as Hindu has. Fritjof

Capra a scientist in the field of quantum physics states that the knowledge of Hindu surpassed Western scientific knowledge which is limited. In addition, NASA scientists recently stated that *Deva Nagari* letter or letters of *Sanskrit* is the only letter that can be used as a digital symbol to operate the spacecraft computer devices. In addition, knowledge of yoga which is rooted in Hindu philosophy has become science and technology that has been developed by different scientists in different parts of the world today. There are many more examples of Hindu knowledge of truth which is in line with the principles of logical knowledge.

Finally, in order to realize a more concrete and convincing typology and Hindu Knowledge epistemology to the world's scientist, Denpasar State Hindu Dharma Institute as one of the institutions of scientific education, inhabited by Hindu Intellectuals, is responsible for exposing all the wealth of Hindu knowledge that seems to be buried in the bottom of the ocean. Exploration and socialization of Hindu knowledge is expected to contribute on the realization of the safe, harmonious, peaceful and prosperous world community, so that happiness is not only a fantasy in heaven, but become real in the world.

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