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इतिहास दिवाकर

त्रैमासिक अनुसंधान पत्रिका

वर्ष ६ अंक ३ आश्विन मास कलियुगाब्द ५११८ अक्तूबर २०१६



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स्वामी श्रीरंगङ्गनाथनन्द महाराज ३

Ancient India : The Cradle

of knowledge & information Dr. B.C. Chauhan

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माधोसिंह भण्डारी

डॉ. सुशील कुमार कोटनाला ३३

शेष-अशेष

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Ancient India: The Cradle of Knowledge & Information

Dr. B. C. Chauhan

Since the time immemorial India has been a phenomenal source of fascination and a great material concept, knowledge and information resources to the planet. Takshashila University (in Pakistan now) was a great centre of learning where more than 10,500 students from all over the world used to study about 64 subjects. The other great Indian Universities viz. Nalanda, Vikramashila, Vallabhi and Odantapuri were the ancient light houses of knowledge and learning centres for the scholars of the whole world. To see the knowledge and educational developments in ancient India a need arises to go through the socio-economic, political and cultural history of the wonderland. In this work some light is being shed on the historical facts which divulge India as the origin of most of the scientific discoveries and inventions that have been credited by the western people. The inferences have been supported by the facts, findings and quotes of the historians and scholars. Contribution of the ancient Indians towards the broadening of the horizon of human consciousness is very great and quite legitimately the Indians must proud of it.

There is no doubt that till today India stands as the home of Spiritual Masters, where people from all over the world return to have a deep solace in the heat and dust of the holy soil. It is often claimed that India was a prosperous country and scientifically developed in the olden time. On the other hand, it is a fact that today materially and scientifically India is not as much progressed as the western countries are. So, there is a paradox: claim that ancient India was materially prosperous and scientifically developed and fact that today, quite opposite is seen on the land! How it can be? In order to understand this missing link one must go through the told and untold history of this sub-continent. There arises a need to go through the socio-economic, political and cultural history of the wonderland.

It is corroborated by the researchers that up to the 12th century, Europe was in the Dark Age. Historians call this period as the 'Dark Age', because there was no knowledge like mathematics, science, medicine etc. in Europe. Long back, there was enlightenment for a short period in a limited part of Europe, i.e. in Greek from 6th century BC for a few centuries by import of knowledge from India through Arabs