

Ganesha, the Elephant-Headed God

by Potluri Rao In Seattle ©2018 (CC BY 4.0)

An analysis of DNA samples of the Indian populations revealed that there are only four groups of people in India: (1) Hindus (DNA F), who lived only in Peninsular India for 60,000 years; (2) Sindhus (R1a), who lived only along the Indus River for 4,000 years; (3) Brahmins (Z93), who lived only in Kashmir for 2,000 years; and (4) Parsis (R1a1), who lived only on the west coast for 1,000 years.

The R1a, R1a1, and Z93 were Europeans who moved to Bactria at the time of the global drought of 4,000 years ago. The R1a lived in North Bactria. Some of them moved south to the Indus River. The R1a1 and Z93 lived in South Bactria (Avesta). The R1a1 expelled Z93 from Avesta to Kashmir for their unethical and immoral social behavior of robbing Avestans with fictional rituals called Yajna. Some R1a1 sought refuge in India to escape Muslim persecution.

Hindus never had a concept of god or war. Sindhus were constantly at war to rob each other. It was their culture. They had a concept of war but no god. The Parsis had a concept of god as nature, but no war. They offered prayers to nature, called Yasna, as an expression of gratitude. They had no temples or idolatry. The Brahmins invented fictional gods Vishnu, Shiva, and Indra in human form as miracle makers who obeyed commands of Brahmins to perform miracles on demand to cure any ailment. The Brahmin gods were marketed as snake oil, with fictional rituals called Yajna. The gods were not housed in temples. Avestans did not approve of Brahmins robbing them with snake oil. Brahmins were expelled to Kashmir.

Idolatry was a Greek invention to rob people in their occupied territories. It was a novel concept to rob locals without the need for an expensive standing army. They promoted local popular heroes to god status and housed them in expensive temples. The Greeks discovered the unethical Brahmins in Kashmir and put them on their payroll to invent fictional stories to market the temple gods.

Temple business was a Greek invention. There were no temples on the subcontinent before the Greeks. It was a highly profitable business. Greeks employed less-educated Brahmins imported from Kashmir to service temple gods with daily rituals. Brahmins were paid minimum wages and chained to temples as indentured labor. The Greeks hired the Sindhus, the warmongers, as their management team to administer temples and collect revenue. Sindhus were called Kshatriya. Greeks contracted Kshatriya on a commission basis.

The highly profitable temple business attracted competition. The robber gods mushroomed to rob Hindus and spread across India like wildfire.

Religious fights, for market share by rival temple gods, often turned into bloodbaths. By the time of Adi Shankara (800 CE), India was in total ruins with religious anarchy.

Adi Shankara suggested a solution for Hindus to meet their craving for God: Hindus could worship as many gods as they wanted, because they were all reflections (Advaita) of the same god.

The Advaita doctrine encouraged Hindus to worship multiple temple gods at the same time. Advaita shattered the grip of the robber gods. Gods lost their monopoly power. The free market competition reduced profit margins to zero. It liberated Hindus from their religious shackles.

Adi Shankara introduced a new form of worship: Hindus should place religiously neutral Ganesha (the elephant-headed God) at the center and place any other gods of their choice, no limit, around him.

In the Pancha-ayatana (five altars) Puja, Ganesha was placed on the center altar of a square. Any other gods were placed on the four corner altars, for a total of Pancha (five). Both Shiva and Vishnu could be worshiped, at the same time and place, as long as Ganesha sat in the middle to stop them from killing each other.

Adi Shankara placed different local gods on the four corners at each place he visited. He invited rival local gods to join him in a common prayer. He visited all of India in his short life of 32 years. He was venerated as the Jagadguru (universal teacher).

The religiously neutral Ganesha of the Pancha-ayatana Puja was an icon of the nonviolence movement of Adi Shankara. Always, the first prayer was to Ganesha. Ganesha spread the message of nonviolence throughout India and restored peace and religious tolerance. As usual, Brahmins invented fictional stories of Ganesha to sell snake oil.

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