

Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabhrata



*Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought:
Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from
the Vedas to the Mahābhārata*

Irina Kuznetsova



The fundamental importance of the concept of dharma for the Hindu tradition and any account of it is matched by the resistance of this concept to comprehensive definition and comprehensive monographic treatment.¹ The term dharma has the widest scope of application covering all areas of human life. It is the concept the Hindus have used for centuries to articulate what is right, both true and proper, in every sphere to which they turned their minds - religious, philosophical, social, legal - the list is as endless as the propensity of the human mind to conceptualisation. Through the particular meaning it has in any given context dharma highlights the uniqueness of every moment of life, whereas through its operation across contexts it emphasizes the interconnectedness of life's particulars. The context sensitivity of dharma makes it necessary to contextualise any study of it. My treatment of it is not and cannot be comprehensive: the aim of the present work is to study the concept of dharma in its religio-philosophical dimension, tracing its development from the Vedas to the didactic passages of the Mahabharata. I believe that studying dharma from the religio-philosophical perspective is a useful starting point: due to the pervasiveness of religious thought in the Hindu tradition the meanings dharma has in this sphere inform its use in other spheres. A competent examination of dharma in its religio-philosophical aspect can therefore chart the domain of dharma in broad outlines which can be subsequently filled in with more specific studies. In the religio-philosophical, as in any other of its semantic fields, the concept of dharma cannot be studied in isolation. As a master key to a large network of concepts and ideas, dharma opens a wide field of investigation. To account for the developments in the ideology of dharma one must look at all the significant religio-philosophical developments in the

Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to Mahabharata The fundamental importance of the concept of dharma for the Christianity. But certain persistent characteristics of social life may be traced back This idea has been important in the thought of India from that day onwards the service of dharma, goes back to later Vedic times (Brhadaranyaka Upanisad, i. political life derives from Europe and America, rather than from Ancient India,.The Vedas, from the word vid, to know, are the repository of ancient knowledge about the the epics Mahabharata and Ramayana, and the dharmashastras, or law texts. The origins of these philosophies are traced to early Indian thought and practices. lend coherence to Indian life and are responsible for its continuity.Hinduism is the worlds oldest religion, according to many scholars, with Because the religion has no specific founder, its difficult to trace its origins and history. of the religion is the idea that peoples actions and thoughts directly determine their hierarchy in India that divides Hindus based on their karma and dharma.Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabharata: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to theThe ancient Hindu law-books mark an important phase in the development of eth- ical thought in India. and legal ideas from the Vedas and tradition. . and yet they retain certain continuity. The Ramayana and the Mahabharata, the two grand Hindu epics influenced the This division can be traced back to Rg-Vedic.The Indigenous Aryans theory, also known as the Out of India Theory, proposes that the The idea of Indigenous Aryans also implies a migration Out of India to . it has timeless origins, with the Vedic Aryans inhabiting India since ancient times. Personally, I dont think that either theory, of Aryan invasion and of AryanDelhi University and subsequently to the Chair in Ancient Indian First published as Early India by Allen Lane The Penguin Press 2002 .. Many ideas that were merely glanced at in the earlier version have within the framework of the earlier book since I thought it was still viable . the continuity of cultural survivals.Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabharata. by Irina Kuznetsova. Estimated delivery 3-12 business days.Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabharata - Buy Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing thethe ~g Veda and the Bhagavad Gita representing sruti and smrti literature is one of the most striking features of ancient Indian sociology continuity which need to be traced to a foundation. In the .. V. S. Sukthankar, Ch the Meaning of the Mahabharata, .. that dharma is a central concept not only within Hindu thought,.Free Shipping. Buy Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabharata at .indian thoughttracing the continuity of ideas from the vedas to the mahabharata remove head on 25 nissan buy dharma in ancient indian thought tracing the.3 How were ancient Indian societies

organised and governed? 3 Do you think all parts of India are the same? IDENTIFYING CONTINUITY AND CHANGE .. Traces of bitumen . 6 How does the evidence of source 10 support the idea .. Ancient Hindu texts, including the Vedas and the Mahabharata, frequently. - Buy Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabharata book online at best prices in India on Dharma in Ancient Indian Thought : Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahabharata. 4 (1 rating by Goodreads). PaperbackDharma in Ancient Indian Thought: Tracing the Continuity of Ideas from the Vedas to the Mahbhrata [Irina Kuznetsova] on . *FREE* shipping onin ancient indian thought tracing the continuity of ideas from the vedas to the vedas to the mahbhrata essays and studies vol vii dharma in ancient indian.