INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS (IKS)

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Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)

Foreword by

Prof. Asheesh Srivastava

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Mr. Amit Adhikari | Mr. Swarup Rana

Dr. Anup Kumar Ghorai | Dr. Chandan Mandal

AMITRAKSHAR PUBLISHERS KOLKATA

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Indian Knowledge Systems

(IKS)

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Dedicated
To
My Janani
Dr. Amrita Dutta
Formar Principal, Netaji Nagar College,
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
[Editor in Chief of AIJITR, Founder of Amitrakshar Publishers]
By
Amit Adhikari

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Professor, Higher Education Policy
&
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Foreword

It is with profound honor and immense pleasure that I pen the foreword for *Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)*- a timely and insightful compilation that delves into the philosophical, cultural, and socio-economic ethos of Indian civilization, while simultaneously addressing its interface with contemporary challenges and the transformative role of science and technology. This volume stands as a testament to the enduring relevance of India's indigenous knowledge systems and their dynamic engagement with the complexities of the modern world. The authors **Mr. Amit Adhikari, Mr. Swarup Rana, Dr. Anup Kumar Ghorai, and Dr. Chandan Mandal** have admirably woven together a narrative that is both scholarly and accessible, deeply rooted in intellectual rigor yet enriched with practical insights. Their collective scholarship reflects a commendable commitment to exploring India's civilizational legacy through a multidisciplinary lens. Each module within this book navigates a spectrum of themes- from the foundational values embedded in Indian society to the evolving paradigms of culture, social structures, and policy frameworks. Particularly noteworthy is the way the authors situate caste, gender, and the informal sector within the broader discourse of development and justice. Their nuanced treatment of these issues, anchored in both historical context and contemporary relevance, renders this work especially meaningful in today's socio-political landscape. Moreover, the text's emphasis on the Indian Constitution as a living document that continues to shape and respond to societal aspirations reinforces its pedagogical value. The integration of scientific temper and technological progress with traditional wisdom creates a framework that not only acknowledges India's past but also envisions its future. What distinguishes this work is its ability to serve as a bridge—connecting the richness of India's indigenous epistemologies with the demands of present-day governance, education, and policy-making. In doing so, it invites readers to reimagine the possibilities of development grounded in cultural authenticity and ethical responsibility. *Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)* is poised to become an indispensable resource for students, educators, researchers, and policymakers alike. It promises to deepen understanding, provoke critical thought, and inspire informed action. I am confident that this book will not only enrich academic discourse but also contribute meaningfully to the ongoing project of nation-building.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the authors for this remarkable contribution and recommend this volume with great enthusiasm to all those seeking to engage meaningfully with the soul of India.

Prof. Asheesh Srivastava

24.03.2025,
Varanasi.

Preface

India is a land of immense diversity, a cradle of ancient civilization enriched by centuries of cultural, social, and technological evolution. The essence of this diversity lies in its complex social structure, varied cultural heritage, and unique knowledge systems, which continue to shape the nation in profound ways. The study of Indian Knowledge Systems is not only a tribute to our rich legacy but also a tool to understand the intricacies of contemporary society and address pressing social issues. This book, Indian Knowledge Systems, is an earnest effort to explore the multifaceted aspects of Indian society, culture, social issues, and the role of science and technology in shaping its future.

The book is divided into four modules, each focusing on a specific domain of Indian Knowledge Systems. The first module, Introduction to Indian Society, delves into the foundational aspects of Indian society, its roots, and its intricate social structure in both rural and urban contexts. It also examines the dynamics of social institutions, the issues faced by marginalized groups like Dalits and tribes, and the interplay of power and conflicts within society. This module provides a comprehensive understanding of the diverse and stratified nature of Indian society.

The second module, Introduction to Culture in Indian Society, addresses the cultural dimensions of India. It provides insights into the basic understanding of Indian culture, its languages, and literature, as well as the phenomenon of cultural change and its impact on society. This module emphasizes the importance of cultural heritage while examining the transformations brought about by globalization and modernization.

The third module, Social Issues in Modern India, highlights some of the most pressing challenges faced by contemporary Indian society. Issues such as poverty, gender inequality, the plight of slum dwellers, challenges faced by the informal sector, and the rights of children and the physically challenged are critically analyzed. The relevance of the Indian Constitution in addressing these issues is also discussed, underscoring its role as a guiding framework for social justice.

The final module, Science, Technology, and Society, explores the relationship between technological advancements and societal development. It discusses appropriate technology for sustainable growth, the linkage between science, technology, and development, and the policies that shape India's scientific endeavors. This module emphasizes the importance of leveraging technology to address societal challenges and drive inclusive development.

This book is designed to serve as a resource for students, educators, researchers, and policymakers who wish to gain a deeper understanding of Indian society and its knowledge systems. It adopts an interdisciplinary approach, blending sociological, cultural, and scientific perspectives to provide a holistic view.

The journey of compiling this book has been one of immense learning and reflection. It is hoped that the insights and perspectives offered in these pages will inspire readers to appreciate India's rich legacy, critically engage with its contemporary challenges, and contribute to its future as a more equitable and prosperous society.

Let us embark on this journey to unravel the complexities of Indian Knowledge Systems and celebrate the diversity and resilience of our nation.

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Mr. A. Adhikari
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Dr. A. Ghorai
Dr. C. Mandal

Place: Medinipur
Date: 24/03/25

Acknowledgement

The successful completion of this book, Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS), has been possible due to the guidance, encouragement, and support of several individuals to whom we owe our deepest gratitude.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to ***Dr. Amrita Dutta***, Former Principal of Netaji Nagar College, Kolkata, West Bengal, India, for her unwavering encouragement and insightful suggestions throughout the course of this work. Her wisdom and guidance have been an invaluable resource for us.

We are profoundly grateful to ***Prof. Asheesh Srivastava***, Professor of Higher Education Policy and Dean of Academic & Research, IUCTE-BHU, Varanasi, an autonomous institution of UGC, MoE, Government of India. The foreword written by him has elevated the essence of this book and enriched its intellectual value.

Our sincere gratitude goes to all our respected teachers who have shaped our understanding and nurtured our journey, as well as to our parents, whose unconditional love, support, and blessings have been our greatest strength.

We also wish to extend special thanks to ***Amitrakshar Publishers, Kolkata***, for their belief in this project and for ensuring its seamless publication. Their professionalism and dedication have helped bring this book to fruition in its finest form.

This book is a testament to the collective effort, guidance, and encouragement we received, and we dedicate its success to all who contributed to its creation.

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Place: Medinipur
Date: 24/03/25

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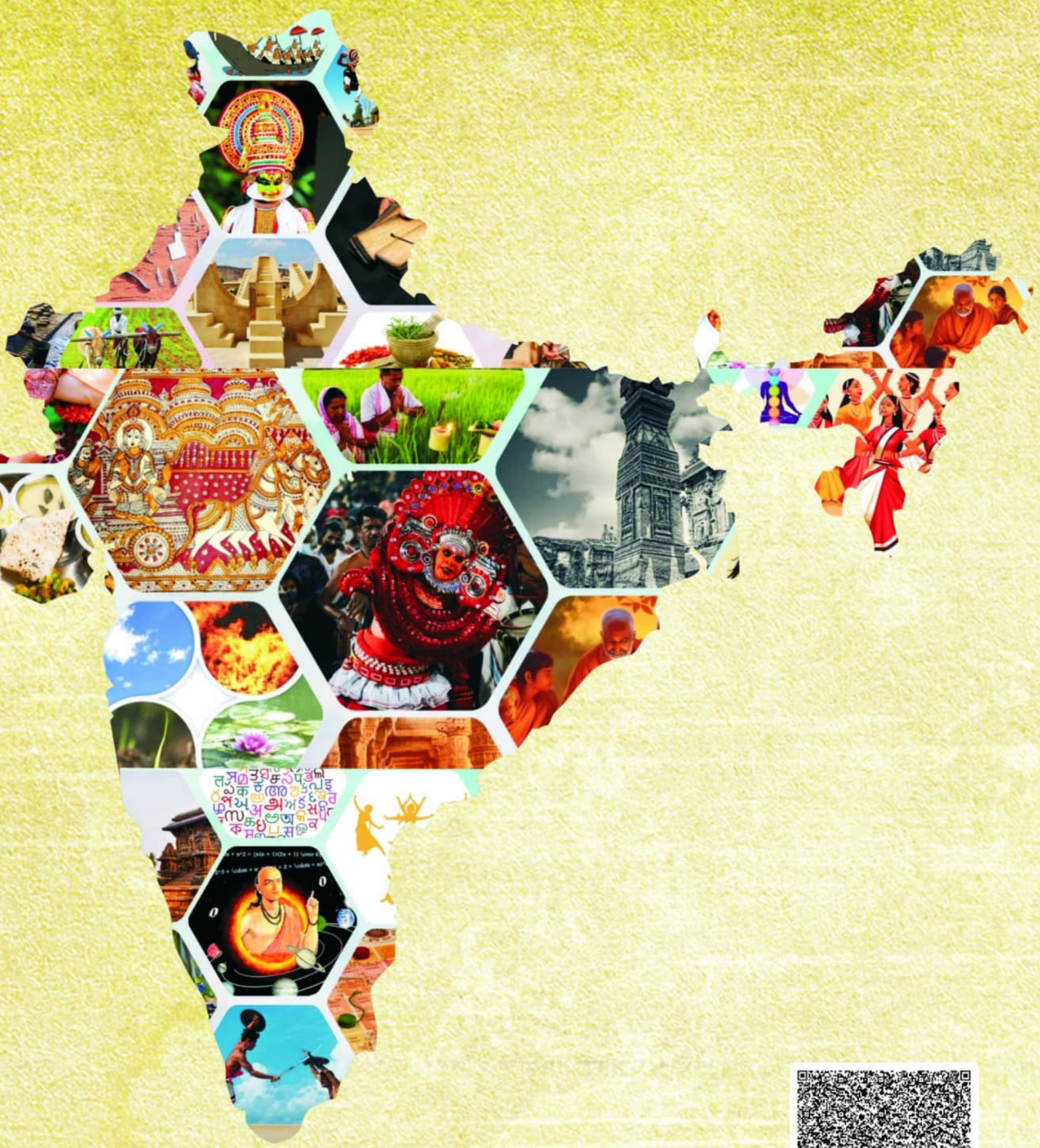

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