

THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE IN UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT OF LIBERATION IN SANKARA'S PHILOSOPHY

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ABSTRACT

In Sankara's Philosophy Mokṣa is understood as liberation which is attained by realizing our own self. In other words, which is attained as a process of purification of self which is gradually and increasingly turn into purer and purer intentional construction. According to Sankara, Mokṣa is not a state to be newly attained. It consists in the soul's being absolutely all of a piece with itself. According to Sankara, it is knowledge and knowledge alone which is the means of Mokṣa and the highest knowledge is Mokṣa itself. Liberation in Sankara Vedanta means the realization of Para-Vidya, which may be understood in the realm of transcendental subjectivity this state is called Brahmabhava, which is described as truth, knowledge, and bliss (Sat, Chit, Ananda).

KEYWORDS: *Moksa, Brahmabhava, Para-Vidya*