

## **GLOSSARY**



Adharma - unrighteousness, vice

Ahimsa - non-violence

Artha - wealth

Ashramadharma - human law

Atman - the real self

Bhagwan - god

Bhakti - devotion

Brahmacharya ashrama - pupilage in divine knowledge during

celibelacy

Dharma - righteous behaviour

Dharmasastra - teaching of righteousness

Dhyana - meditation

Geeta - text on applied philosophy(bhagwat gita)

Griha - home

Grihastha ashrama - the stage of worldly and family life being, one

of the four stages into which a hindu's life is traditionally divided, one works together as

husband and wife to raise the family.

Guru - teacher, preceptor

Kama - implies sensory and aesthetic fulfilment

(pleasure)

Karma - sum of a persons actions in previous states

of existence viewed as deciding his or her fate in future existences, the law of cause

and effect in the moral world

Maharbharata - historical text on the life of the kuru dynasty,

also revered as a sacred epic, composed

maharishi ved vyas

Moksha - reaching salvation and a release from the

cycles of birth (liberation)

Paramatma - the supreme soul

Parampara - tradition

Parmashakti - the supreme power/ energy

Prem - love

Puranas - texts of Indian mythology/ philosophy and

religion

Sanskar - mental impression, instinct, influence, merit

of actions, ceremony

Satya - truth

Shakti - energy, power, ability, capacity, strength,

prowess

Shanti - peace

Shastras - scholarly treatises of the hindu sciences

Shishya - disciple

Svadharama - one's own duty

Taittiriya Upanishad - one of the Upanishads

*Upanayan* - initiation into sacred study

Upanishad - mystical writings to explain meanings of the

Vedas, text on spirituality

Vanprastha ashrama - third stage of life where one renounces the

worldly pleasures

Vedanta - hindu philosophy based on the Upanishads

Vedas - the most ancient hindu scriptures, ancient

sacred text of hindus

Yoga - system of meditation and asceticism to attain

complete reunion with the universal spirit, the union of the lower self with the higher self.