

UNFOLDMENT OF COLLECTIVE (COSMIC) CONSCIOUSNESS IN INDIAN SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS

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Abstract: There is some scientific experimental evidence that continued collective meditation can impact various individual and collective phenomena. While such experiments are rather difficult to design and interpret, spiritual traditions have witnessed enough evidence for centuries of the unfoldment of collective (cosmic) consciousness through the paths of meditation and devotion. The first stage of such a consciousness is to see the enlightened being in all life forms – limitless and yet covering the whole universe, the *Virata*. When the seeker advances a little more in his realization, the supreme creator unfolds in all his glory and opulence – the *Hiranygarbha*. The final stage in these realizations is the universal wisdom of *Avyakrita (Akshara)*.