

Preface

Perhaps the most important topic discussed by the Indian philosophers is the concept of self. As the *summum-bonum* of Indian philosophy is the *mokṣa* or liberation of the self, the doctrines of self occupy a large portion of Indian philosophy. This dissertation is a humble attempt to elaborate and discuss the concept of self as found in *Cārvāka*, *Bauddha*, *Jaina*, *Sāṃkhya-Yoga*, *Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika*, *Mīmāṃsā* and *Vedānta* schools.

The present work is a humble attempt to highlight two philosophical problems regarding the concept of self. It is well known to the Hindu tradition that after the death of an individual, a ritual called *śrādhha* is performed by family members as per the recommendation of the *Smṛti* texts or Hindu Law. However, some schools argue against this ritual. An effort has been made in this dissertation to discuss on this issue and to argue in favour of such ceremony.

Apart from these, a humble attempt has been made to make a critical and comparative analysis between the Hindu concept of self with the Christian concept of self.

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