

## **A Study of Dara Shukov's Persian Translation of the Principal Upanishadas**

The doctrine of secularism is accepted by Indian people as the part and parcel of their constitution itself. One of the very important shades of the meaning of secularism is *Sarvadharmasamabhava*.

*Sarvadharmasamabhava* in India has a long history and a number of saints and philosophers have contributed to its development. Prince Dara Shukov is prominent among them. This Mughal Prince, the son of Shahajahan undertook the mega project of rendering into Persian all the Sanskrit Upanishadas whereby the religious dialogue could take place between Hindus and Muslims and they could understand each other in better way.

The present project is an attempt to study Dara's Persian translations of the principal Upanishadas and compare them with their Sanskrit commentaries such as Shankaracharya's and highlight Dara's own contribution, i.e. where and how, deviating from the established meaning he goes to independent interpretations.

Prof. Sadanand More (Philosophy), Prof. (Ms.) Shailaja Bapat (Sanskrit) have undertaken this project. In order to understand original Persian text of Dara, Mr. Sayyed Alamadar is appointed as research assistant. Up till now seven out of ten translations have been read out. It is really a challenging task and may require more time to accomplish.

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