

### 30-Knowledge & Understanding

Give me knowledge that I may have kindness for all.

American Indigenous, Plains Tribe

Abiding in the midst of ignorance, thinking themselves wise and learned, fools go aimlessly hither and thither, like blind led by the blind.

Hinduism, *Katha Upanishad* 1.2: 5

The fixtures and furniture of one's house may be stolen by thieves; but knowledge, the highest treasure, is above all stealing.

Hinduism, *Garuda Purana*

The fear of HaShem is the beginning of knowledge; but the foolish despise wisdom and discipline.

Judaism, *Misheli (Proverbs)* 1: 7

Wise men lay up knowledge; but the mouth of the foolish is an imminent ruin.

Judaism, *Misheli (Proverbs)* 10: 14

The heart seeketh knowledge.

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Judaism, *Mishlei (Proverbs)* 18: 15-16

Whoever gives oneself to distractions and does not give oneself to meditation, forgetting true purpose and grasping at pleasure, will eventually envy the one who practices meditation.

Buddhism, *Dhammapada* 209

His thought is quiet, quiet are his word and deed, when he has obtained freedom by true knowledge, when he has thus become a quiet man.

Buddhism, *Dhammapada*, VII, 96

When they think that they know the answers, people are difficult to guide.

When they know that they don't know, people can find their own way

Taoism, *Tao Te Ching*, Chapter 65

For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away.

Christianity, *Corinthians I* 13: 9-10

Have nothing to do with godless and silly myths. Train yourself in godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Christianity, *Timothy I* 4: 7-8

A similar (favour have ye already received) in that We have sent among you a Messenger of your own, rehearsing to you Our Signs, and sanctifying you, and instructing you in Scripture and Wisdom, and in new knowledge.

Islam, Muhammad, *Qur'án* 2: 151

Now, when trouble touches man, he cries to Us: But when We bestow a favour upon him as from Ourselves, he says, "This has been given to me because of a certain knowledge (I have)!" Nay, but this is but a trial, but most of them understand not!

Islam, Muhammad, *Qur'án* 39: 49

We have decreed, O people, that the highest and last end of all learning be the recognition of Him Who is the object of all knowledge.

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh,  
*Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. 197

Know thou that, according to what thy Lord, the Lord of all men, hath decreed in His Book, the favors vouchsafed by Him unto mankind have been, and will ever remain, limitless in their range. First and foremost among these favors, which the Almighty hath conferred upon man, is the gift of understanding. His purpose in conferring such a gift is none other except to enable His creature to know and recognize the one true God--exalted be His glory....

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh,  
*Gleanings*, p. 194