

The Science of Upanishads – Part 38: Vedic and Puranic Perception of Time--2. Alternative Measurement Units of Time: Definition of Manu & Manvantara as well as Our Relative Position in History

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The last week's Mandir Bulletin defined the units of time in terms of Yuga, Mahayuga, Kalpa, Brhma's Day, and Brahma's Life. There is an alternative puranic measurement of time in units of Manvantara.

The Puranic Concept of Time in Units of Manvantara:

Each Kalpa (=1000 Maha Yugas) is reigned over by a succession of 14 Manus, and the reign of each Manu is called a Manvantara. A single Manvantara, therefore, is approximately 71 Maha Yugas. In addition, preceding the first and following each Manvantara period is a junction (Sandhya and Sandhyamsha, respectively) the length of a SatyaYuga (1,728,000 Human Years = ~1.73 Million Human Years). Therefore, the total duration of Sandhya and Sandhyamsha years = 1.73 Million x 14 = ~24.2 Million Human Years. Furthermore, since 1 Maha Yuga = ~4.32 Million years,

The Total of Sandhya & Sandhyamsha Years in Units of Maha Yuga
= $24.2 / 4.32 \approx 6$ Maha Yugas.

Therefore, 1 Kalpa = (14 Manvantaras X 71 Maha Yugas = 994 Maha Yugas) + (Total of Sandhya + Sandhyamsha Years = 6 Maha Yugas) = 1000 Maha Yugas

This is the exact same number calculated using the first method of measurement as discussed last time.

It is further state that Each Manvantara is followed by a Deluge (a great flood), which destroys the existing continents and swallows up all living beings, except the few who are preserved for the repopulation of the earth.

Our Relative Position in History:

We are located in the **51st Brahma Year** of the 100 years of Brahma Life of our current Brahma. Within that Brahma Year, we are in the **1st Brahma Day**, called the **Varaha Kalpa**. Within that Brahma Day, we are in the **7th Manvantara**, and in the **28th Maha Yuga of that Manvantara**. This would place us at about the **454th Maha Yuga** of the 1,000 Maha Yugas that comprise this day of Brahma.

Within this Maha Yuga, we are in **Kali Yuga**. The **5100th Year of Kali Yuga will correspond to the year 2,000 A.D.** That means that we are fairly early in Kali Yuga and this age will continue **more than 426,000 more years.**

(To Be Continued).....

[Read Here for More on Definitions of Manu & Manvantara as well as on Our Relative Position in History](#)