

Ethnobiological Analysis From Myth to Science, X: *Pancha Yajnya* (Five Sacrifices) - Geetaa Narrates Their Integration

Sachidananda Padhy

Department of Botany, Govt. Science College (Lead), Chatrapur 761 020, Orissa, India

KEYWORDS Ethnobiology. *Manusmruti*. *Pancha Yajnya* - Five Sacrifices. Geetaa

ABSTRACT The basic theme of sacrifice is conceptualised as *Pancha Yajnya* in *Manusmruti*, to express one's obligation for the ecological environment. Geetaa further elaborates that, one should work with selfless motive for sacrifice (*Nrru Yajnya*) following the foot prints of his ancestors (*Pitru Yajnya*), those who had achieved perfection through sacrifice. The skill for the selfless work is to be learned from Vedas (source of knowledge - *Rrushi Yajnya*) and to be implemented in practical life as well to foster the nature (ecological powers - Gods - *Deva Yajnya*); in return rain is bestowed (by gods) as gift that produces food for sustenance of life and proliferate the biodiversity. Man identifies one amongst the biosphere, should have a moral responsibility for the protection of all living beings (*Bhoota Yajnya*).