

Conversation Card 5

Bhūmi Sūktam

1. यस्यामापः परिचराः समानीरहोरात्रे अप्रमादं क्षरन्ति ।

सा नो भूमिभूरिधारा पयो दुहामथो उक्षतु वर्चसा ॥

मैं श्रद्धापूर्वक माता पृथ्वी को प्रणाम करता/करती हूँ। उनमें जल दिन और रात्रि निरंतर, बिना रुके, सभी दिशाओं में प्रवाहित होता रहता है। वह माता पृथ्वी, जो अनेकों धाराओं से समृद्ध है, हमें अपने जीवनदायी जलरूपी दुग्ध से पोषित करे और अपने तेज, ऊर्जा तथा जीवनदायी शक्ति से हमें सींचे।

I reverentially bow down to Mother Earth. In Her waters flow on all sides, day and night, with vigilance (i.e. unceasingly). May She, Mother Earth, give us the milk of Her abundant streams, and moisten us with Her splendour.

2. गिरयस्ते पर्वता हिमवन्तोऽरण्यं ते पृथिवि स्योनमस्तु ।

बभ्रुं कृष्णां रोहिणीं विश्वरूपां ध्रुवां भूमिं पृथिवीमिन्द्रगुप्ताम् ।

अजीतोऽहतो अक्षतोऽध्यष्टां पृथिवीमहम् ॥

हे पृथ्वी माता! आपके पर्वत, हिमाच्छादित शिखर और वन हमारे लिए कल्याणकारी एवं सुखद हों। विविध रूपों वाली, भूरे, काले और लाल रंगों से युक्त, स्थिर एवं धारण करने वाली, इन्द्र द्वारा संरक्षित इस पृथ्वी पर मैं अजेय, अनाहत और अक्षत रहकर स्थित रहूँ।

(I reverentially bow down to Mother Earth) O Mother Earth, may your hills and snow-clad mountains (spread their coolness within us); may your forests spread their delight within us. You present a vishwarupa with your many colours - You are brown, dark, and reddish in form. (But behind all these captivating appearances) O Mother Earth, You are like Dhruva - firm and immovable; and Indra protects you. (On Your firm foundation) which is unconquered, unslayed and unbroken whole, I stand firm (and whole, O Mother).

Prompt Questions For Teachers

I. Seeing and Naming

- What all can you see in this picture?
- Where is the water coming from?
- Can you find rivers, mountains, clouds, animals, farms, and homes?
- What is the colour of the clouds?
- What is coming from the clouds?
- What are the people doing near the river?
- Can you name the animals and birds you notice?

II. Feeling and Relating

- How does this picture make you feel when you look at it?
- Is the big, beautiful lady happy, sad or calm in the picture?
- Have you ever seen clouds, rain, rivers, or farms like these?
- How do you think the farmers feel when rain comes?

III. Cause and Effect

- What happens when the sun heats the river water?
- Where do the clouds get water from?
- What happens to plants when rain falls?
- What may happen if rivers dry up?
- How does river water help people and animals?
- Why is there green vegetation in the picture?

IV. Self-World Connection

- Does anything in this picture feel familiar to you?
- Why do many people live near the rivers?
- How do we use water in our daily lives?
- How does rain help us get food?
- Which activity given in the picture do you like doing the most?

V. From Images to Actions

- What things in this picture can we notice around us every day?
 - Where do we see plants, or living beings, near our school or home?
 - Do we try to keep nearby ponds and rivers clean?
 - Do we make efforts not to waste water at home and school?
 - What should we do during rainy days to not waste water?
 - If Mother Earth could talk, what might she say to us about our above efforts?
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