

Sanatan Wisdom in a Capitalist World: Eternal Concepts for a Beautiful Life

by Jana Publication & Research

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ABSTRACT

In a world that celebrates speed, profit, and productivity, it's easy to forget the deeper essence of life. The capitalist system is efficient yet exhausting, pushing us to chase more, own more, and do more. But what about being more? This is where Sanatan Dharma offers timeless guidance. Not bound by time, culture, or religion, Sanatan (which means "eternal") isn't just a belief system; it's a way of observing, understanding, and living in harmony with both the universe and the self.

Here are Sanatan concepts that can help us live beautifully and meaningfully even within the noise of capitalism.

Maya vs. Anand: The Illusion of Happiness vs. the Reality of Bliss "Maya can give you khushi (momentary joy), but Anand (true bliss) is what one should aim for." In today's consumer-driven world, we're constantly fed the idea that happiness lies in things like new phones, better jobs, and more followers. However, Sanatan philosophy reveals Maya, the illusion of external happiness. It teaches us that Khushi is based on temporary gains, but Anand arises from inner peace. You can have everything and still feel empty. You can have nothing and still be in a state of bliss. Real contentment is not purchased, it is realised. Don't let your self-worth be tied to material possessions. Practice silence, gratitude, and mindful detachment. Let inner stillness be your source of happiness.

Atithi Devo Bhava: Bowing to the Divine in Every Soul. This phrase is often reduced to mere hospitality, but its real meaning is revolutionary: "Salute the Atma, the divine soul residing in every being, regardless of their external nature." In a capitalist society, people are often valued based on their utility, wealth, or status. But Sanatan Dharma teaches us that every individual carries within them the Param Brahma, the Supreme Consciousness. We don't bow to their character, caste, or profession; we bow to the eternal soul within, which is untouched by ego or conditioning. Even Namaste is not just a greeting; it is a recognition of shared divinity. Value others not for what they can give you, but for what they inherently are. Practice respect and humility in every interaction. It's not idealism, it's spiritual realism.

The Law of the Trinity: Life Always Warns in Threes. Sanatan texts reveal a fascinating truth: the universe gives you three chances, three signs, before consequences unfold.

Ramayan:

- 1st warning: Sita desires the golden deer, an impossible illusion.
- 2nd: Lakshman warns her that the voice isn't Ram's.
- 3rd: She crosses the Lakshman Rekha, and the great loss begins.

Mahabharat:

- 1st: Shishupal's death warns against unchecked ego.
- 2nd: Jarasandh's fall is an example of dharma prevailing.
- 3rd: Krishna's peace proposal rejected, war becomes inevitable.

This is the Law of the Trinity: Life whispers. Then it speaks. Then it acts. But in today's hyperactive world, we often ignore the first two signals until the third hits like a storm. Whether it's burnout, broken relationships, or inner conflict, life gives warnings. If you're conscious, you'll act before it's too late.

AdiShakti: The Power of Inner Wholeness. "Half man, half woman" is not mythology. It is a symbol of the Purna Satya, i.e., complete truth.

Sanatan philosophy celebrates Ardhanarishwara, the union of Shiva (pure consciousness) and Shakti (creative energy). It represents balance, not division. In the capitalist narrative, we're pushed to choose strong or soft, rational or emotional, competitive or caring. But real power lies in embracing both:

- Masculine and feminine energies
- Logic and intuition
- Stability and transformation

And remember this powerful Sanatan idea:

"Everyone is first in their race. Suno sabki, par karo apni."
(Listen to everyone, but follow your inner voice.)

You are your compass. Don't be a product of comparison. Follow what arises in your mann (inner heart-mind). If your soul says yes, it can be done. You don't need to reject the modern world; you just need to anchor yourself in something deeper. Sanatan Dharma is not about renunciation; it's about reconnection.

- Chase Anand, not illusion.
- See the soul, not the label.
- Read the signs, not just spreadsheets.
- Follow your inner truth, not just trends.

In a world running on profit, deadlines, and branding, Sanatan Dharma invites you to live consciously, love wisely, and act purposefully. Sanatan is not ancient, it is eternal. And it belongs as much to today as it did 10,000 years ago. Shakti is not external. It is your inner voice. Listen, and act with courage. Sanatan Dharma isn't about rituals or strict rules; it's about recognising the eternal truths of existence. These principles prioritising Anand over Maya, seeing the divine in all, learning from nature's triads, and honouring inner Shakti are not outdated. They are more relevant today than ever before.

Sanatan is not old. It is timeless.
Practice it, not as tradition, but as transformation.

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