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Geographical Facts Explained In The Book 'Bhoomi Sastram' Written By Rev. Rhenius

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Introduction:

Rev. Rhenius, who came to India to do religious work, not only preached Jesus Christ but also tried to teach us another education that increases our wisdom. Rev. Rhenius wrote the book 'BhoomiSastram' while he was at Palayamkottai to help Tamilians to know about the world. In 'BhoomiSastram' he described the nature of the earth, the continents, the oceans, the countries on them; islands, the way they should be ruled and the history of those who lived in the countries. As many people thought that the Hindu nation was the world, he wanted to inform about the benefits of the earth. So he wrote a book called 'BhoomiSastram', referring to the books written by scholars of Europe in which they have given information about the earth.

The book 'BhoomiSastram' was the first Tamil Geography book. Since the earth is a planet in the air, the Sun and the Moon that give light to that planet, the figure of the earth, pictures and details of the earth are explained in the book. We can see the research essay 'Geographical facts explained in 'BhoomiSastram' written by Rev. Rhenius'.

The Planet:

The earth is one of the round planets created in the sky by God. Planet means house or place to live. The sun gives light to many planets. These planets move around the sun. The earth also moves around the sun. The distance between the earth and the sun may be lakhs of miles.

Rotation:

One year is formed by the earth revolving around the sun once. This rotation is known as annual motion. The earth revolves around itself and thus one day is formed. This rotation is known as daily motion.

Shape and inclination of the earth:

The earth has a symmetrical shape. So, when there is a lunar eclipse, the shadow of the earth is normal on the moon. If the earth did not have a symmetrical shape, the shape would not be like that. And when we see a ship approaching, we see first the tip of the sail, then as it comes we see the sail and then we see the body of the ship. If the earth does not have a symmetrical shape, then it will not be like that. Moreover, if a passenger on a ship leaves a place and goes to the west, he will arrive at the place where he left.

The earth is dark and it gets its light from the sun. The earth revolves itself and moves, the surface of the earth that faces the sun receives sunlight and it is daytime. The other part, which is facing away from the sun, has nighttime. The earth gets light during the day from the sun and at night it gets light from the moon.

Nature of the Earth:

One part of the earth is land and one part is water. The water surrounding the land is the ocean. The water in the country is called lakes and rivers. The ground of the Earth has flat surfaces and high mountains. The symmetrical earth does not differ due to the presence of high mountains.

Full moon day and new moon day:

The distance between the earth and the moon is approximately 238,855 miles (3,84,400 kms). The moon moves round the sun along with the earth. When the moon is between the earth and the sun, it shows the side that does not get light to the earth, the moon is not visible to us. That is new moon. Then the moon's bright side increases and goes behind the earth and it shows the bright side to the earth. It is a full moon. Then it decreases slowly and goes between the sun and the earth. (It takes 29 days and 12 hours). It is known as synodic month.

Equal day and night:

The earth revolves itself once in 24 hours. An imaginary straight line around the earth that extends from the North Pole to the South Pole is called an Axis. The northern most point of the axis is the North Pole, and the southern most point is the South Pole. The point is called the 'Pole'.

A line drawn on the earth equidistant from the poles, dividing the earth into the Northern hemisphere and the Southern hemisphere is known as the equator.

Moreover, when the sun appears to pass it, day and night are equal on earth. So it is known as isoline. It is also called the Equinomial Line. The sun passes Aries Zodiac on March 21 and Libra Zodiac on September 23. Thus, it passes two equator lines in one year. So two equal days and nights are formed.

The Longest night and the Longest day:

The sun moves on March 21 to the north, leaving the equator and enters the cancer Zodiac on June 21. Then, instead of moving to the north, it turns back towards the south. So that the line in the place is known as the Tropic of cancer. Moreover, it leaves the Tropic of cancer on June 21, and it passes the equator on September 23. It enters the Capricorn Zodiac on December 22. Then, instead of moving to the south, it turns back towards the north. So the line in that place is called the Tropic of Capricorn. Moreover, whenever the sun comes to the Tropic of cancer, people of the Northern hemisphere have the longest day and the shortest night and the people of the Southern hemisphere have the shortest day and the longest night when the sun passes. In the Tropic of Capricorn, the people of the Southern hemisphere have the longest day and the shortest night and people of the Northern hemisphere have the shortest day and the longest night.

Winter and Summer Season:

When the sun passes the equator and goes near the Tropic of cancer, the Northern hemisphere has summer and the Southern hemisphere has the winter season. When the sun passes the equator and goes near the Tropic of Capricorn, the Southern hemisphere has summer season and the Northern hemisphere has winter season. Moreover, as the sun goes up to the Tropic of cancer and does not go further to the north, that event is known as the summer solstice. As the sun goes up to the Tropic of Capricorn and does not go further to the south, this event is known as the winter solstice.

Conclusion:

Rev. Rhenius, who lived in the nineteenth century, though there was no information technology or transport facilities, created the book 'BhoomiSastram'. The geographical facts found in this book are immeasurable and amazing. There is no doubt in the truth that the facts found in this book are treasures to the later Geologists.

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