

Analytical study on the current scenario of Vedas and Sanskrit and How to implement it in the Education system

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Abstract.

This research aims to provide an analytical solution to a modern problem related to the current educational system. The following issues were investigated in this study: Is knowledge of Sanskrit and the Vedas related? Is the current educational system emphasizing the financial aspects more, and how can the Vedas help to eliminate this? Is it true that the current educational system fails to connect people?

A questionnaire was created and distributed to the participants to collect data. This study is targeting the Indian students whether the education of Vedas and Sanskrit should be mandatorily taught or not. The study's findings indicated that a Chi-square test was used to test the relationship between "Knowledge of Sanskrit" and "Knowledge of Vedas," indicating that they are related. Approximately 80% of respondents agreed that the current education system focuses more on money than on providing people knowledge so they can be good human resources to help society. Also, 311 out of 391 respondents favor the claim that the current education system fails to connect people, which is approximately 80%.

Keywords: *Chi-square testing, Word plot, Vedas, Hypothesis testing, Sanskrit and Vedas*

1. INTRODUCTION

Vedas and Sanskrit were an essential part of the Indian Vedic period, during which people focused more on a healthy and happy life. Indian education has been influenced by practical knowledge inherent in the Indian spiritual heritage of Vedic learning and its didactics. However, as India's industrial and economic development accelerates, this age-old spiritual tradition is becoming increasingly invisible in the education system of the country. [1] have explained the meaning of Vedas as "knowledge" in its authentic and original sense. All of the ancient Indian sages' knowledge was assembled in the books known as the Rig Veda, Yajurveda, Sama Veda, and Atharva Veda are four ancient Vedas, [2] highlighted teachers' evolving roles and definitions of teacher effectiveness have been increasingly investigated, concluding that the connections and interrelationships between school education and teacher education must be adequately established, examined, and renewed on a regular basis, [3] covered the key historical trajectories of the traditions that have led to Hinduism, as well as reports of recent Hinduism developments and some of the contemporary traditions, [4] emphasizes the importance of Sanskrit as a language whose literature is an excellent repository of knowledge encompassing every walk of

life be it, science, technology, agriculture, astronomy, architecture, medicine, metallurgy, mathematics, management, economics, ecology, [5] highlighted the progress of higher education in India through several socio-historical periods and laid out the drawbacks of the current modern education system suggesting a need to re-examine and implement various government policies, [6] focussed on the study of the dimensions of locational disadvantage, social exclusion, gender disparity, and special needs for children of other neglected groups, while addressing concerns of equity, inclusion, and quality, [7] have studied the factors hindering the higher education system in India and the need to develop a value-based higher education system to equip kids for self-sufficiency, instilling employment skills and therefore reducing poverty, [8] have studied how the application of a Vedic learning approach to management education in India can be beneficial. Their study of Vedic education led to the conclusion that transformational learning is an Indian concept that must be revitalized to offer practical wisdom to Indian management education, [9] have studied the various aspects of SanatanaDharma or Hinduism's principles and beliefs that are built on timeless truths, such as Satyam, ahimsa, and dharma, or truth, nonviolence, and righteousness, [10] have discovered that Indian students have a strong entrepreneurial potential, entrepreneurship education in higher education is lacking. The study looked at entrepreneurship education and potential separately. It concluded that there was enough room for them to come together to produce synergy, [11] have discovered that Indian students have solid entrepreneurial potential. Entrepreneurship education in higher education is lacking. The study looked at entrepreneurship education and potential separately. It concluded that there was enough room for them to come together to produce synergy, [12] highlighted NEP 2020[13], and examined India 2.0's vision for total education system change to address the challenges of the twenty-first century. It was concluded that this policy emphasizes the importance of professional education in higher education for skill development and job creation.

2. Literature for scientific writing

A civilization is not made of bricks, steel, and equipment, but of humankind, their quality, and character, as Dr. Radhakrishnan correctly stated. As a result, the fundamental goal of education is to develop all of the beauty and perfection that the body and soul are capable of. The Vedic educational system attempted to develop young students into individuals capable of living a perfect and fulfilled life based on Dharma principles.

The Vedas, which means "knowledge" in Sanskrit, are the oldest scriptures discovered in Sanskrit. They are a collection of texts attributed to rishis of ancient sages. Their creation is supposed to be Brahma's work in the epic Mahabharata (the God of creation).

A gurukul emphasizes simplicity of living, adherence to a tight schedule, and respect for the Guru. The pupils are taught equality and independence by having them clean and tidy up after themselves. Prayer, yoga, and meditation are used to instill spirituality in the students. This can help children cope with stress and anxiety in today's competitive society. Vedic education is more than a system of instruction; it is a way of life. Vedic education is appealing because of its emphasis on overall personality development. While India may not revert to Vedic education as the

exclusive mode of instruction, it is a viable choice for some Indians. These concepts can be introduced as part of a broader curriculum, at home, or in extracurricular activities. Enough has been said about the issues plaguing India's educational system. Perhaps the Indian school system needs a good blend of traditional Vedic teaching and modern education.

2.1 Science of the Rishis:

Hinduism's principles and beliefs are built on timeless truths, such as Satyam, ahimsa, and dharma, or truth, nonviolence, and righteousness. Rishis were the name given to the scientists of this civilization. They were philosopher-saints and spiritual scientists who lived during the birth of Indian civilization. The sages wanted humanity to grow both financially and spiritually, guided by the wisdom found in our scriptures, through a perpetual inner renewal of the universal code of righteousness.

2.2 Mathematics and Vedas:

One of India's greatest gifts to the world is the discovery of zero. The necessity was quickly recognized for something that was nothing, on which the entire edifice of the universe and mathematics could be built. India was the first country to use the numerals 1 through 9, spreading from India to Arabia. Budhayana estimated the value of pi, and he also explained the Pythagorean Theorem, which is now well-known. Sridaracharya explained quadratic equations in the eleventh century. Indians used numbers up to 10 to the power of 53 as early as 5000 BCE.

2.3. Drawbacks of the current education system:

It's been 75 years since independence, but still, in India, so many kinds of discrimination are there based on factors like caste, region, religion, and language. It's not limited to the basic level of education, but there is still higher education too.

Poor grading system: Students in the Indian educational system are evaluated mainly on their academic performance, i.e., marks, rather than their overall development. This impacts kids who aren't very proficient at certain courses. The focus is solely on theory courses, preventing students from seeing outside the core areas they have chosen.

Lack of practical knowledge: While theoretical knowledge of any subject is vital, it is not as important when putting these ideas into practice in the real world. Due to a lack of practical expertise, students are bewildered when they walk out into the real world.

Mugging up: Students memorize formulas and theories without truly understanding them. They are not encouraged to create ideas, nor are logical and critical thinking encouraged. This is also because the Indian educational system emphasizes achieving high percentages more than overall development.

Confined to streams: In India, students do not have the option of choosing from a variety of subjects from several streams. This is because the educational system has separated the streams based on disciplines, and people continue to pursue only one path because they lack knowledge of the other fields.

2.4. New Education Policy - 2020

As per the new education policy (2020), now Indian institutes will be more emphasis on teaching Sanskrit as a mainstream subject [NEP - 22.15] in schools as well as in higher education, and Indian institutes will be expanding their curriculums toward the learning of classical languages and literature. The many Sanskrit and all language institutes, including (the Indian Institute of Translation and Interpretation (IITI) are

working to connect Sanskrit and Vedas knowledge to multidisciplinary courses. Departments of Sanskrit are doing interdisciplinary research to connect the Sanskrit language to other disciplines.

2.5. Significance of Vedas in today's world

The Vedas are regarded as one of the Hindu religion's most revered scriptures. They are said to be among the oldest scriptures in the world. Veda is viewed as a repository of wisdom and information. The term 'Veda' refers to knowledge fundamental to humanity's existence. The Vedas reveal the reason, function, and response of human existence in a way that leads to Nirvana or liberation. The Vedas were passed down from one generation to another orally until they were written on record between 1500 BCE and 500 BCE, which was called the Vedic Period of India. The Vedas are a collection of hymns that number in the thousands. The chants generate positive vibes that promote health and healing. It's possible to call it a healing experience. The Vedas argue that there is a fundamental connection between matter and spirit, the universe and living beings and that these connections hold the answers to all of life's difficulties.

3. METHODOLOGY

This research problem statement was identified, then a questionnaire was prepared and shared with the target population through various mediums like social media, friends, and colleagues to get responses. After that, the Literature review was conducted, and then analysis of data was done, and then the current education system and the education system of the Era of Vedas were compared. After that, the conclusions were made.

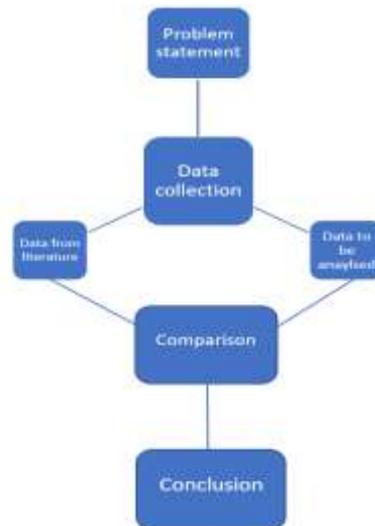


Fig 1: Flow chart of Research Methodology

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Vedas are the treasure that India has had for ages, but the problem is that the knowledge mentioned in these Vedas is not utilized. If one says that not even 5% of Veda's knowledge has been discovered, then it is a fact. It is an ocean that contains the knowledge of everything. So, the purpose of this study is to show how the

implementation of Vedas can help to grow people further towards the common greater good of society.

The study was collected by sharing the survey using various mediums. The below graph shows the geographical locations in India from where the data has been collected, and a few responses were from multiple countries outside India.

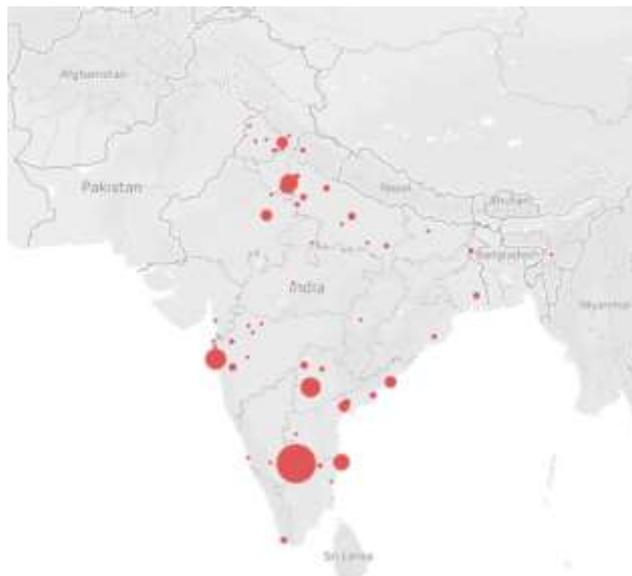


Fig 2: Locations of the responses collected

The approach was to collect the data from various places in India and 21 responses from other countries. The above graph represents the same.

Table 1: Responses based on Gender

	Responses	% Responses
Male	167	43%
Female	220	56%
Prefer not to say	4	1%
Total	391	100%

The above table defines that 56% of the responses are from Females while 43% of the answers are gathered from Males.

It is well known that Vedas are available in the Sanskrit language, so a person requires the knowledge of Sanskrit to read it. Although Vedas have already been translated into many languages, reading them in their original form makes things better than reading the translated version also, Sanskrit is considered the mother of languages, and recently in a claim, it has been mentioned that "Sanskrit is the best

language for programming" therefore, the study was conducted to know whether there is a relationship between the knowledge of Sanskrit and knowledge of Vedas.

Table 2: Cross Tabulation and result of Chi-square testing result

How much Sanskrit do you know ? * How much do you know about Vedas ? Crosstabulation

Count		How much do you know about Vedas ?				Total
		Do not know at all	Just Heard about it	Something	Very Much	
How much Sanskrit do you know ?	Do not know Sanskrit at All	24	61	61	5	151
	Only Read	5	31	57	2	95
	Only Read and Write	4	32	70	6	112
	Read, Write and Talk	0	6	21	6	33
Total		33	130	209	19	391

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	44.600 ^a	9	.000
Likelihood Ratio	42.484	9	.000
N of Valid Cases	391		

Here, the chi-square testing is conducted to know the relationship between the "Level of knowledge of Vedas" and "Level of knowledge of Sanskrit," and the P-value came out to be 0, which indicates that there is an association between the "Level of knowledge of Vedas" and "Level of knowledge of Sanskrit."

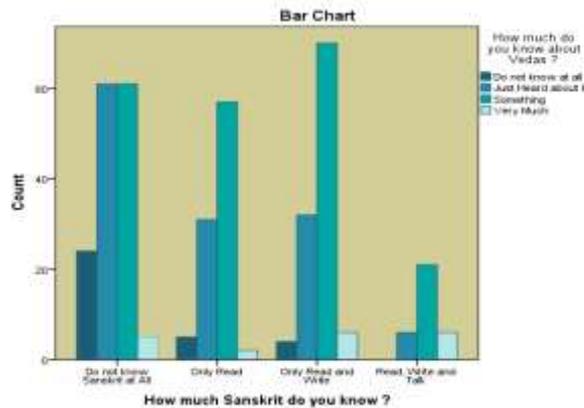


Fig 3: Representation of Knowledge of Vedas and Sanskrit together

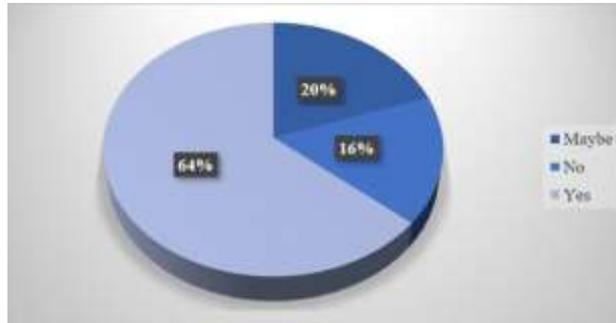


Fig 4: Sanskrit as a Mandatory language

It is advised to make Sanskrit a compulsory subject until higher education so that one will be aware of Sanskrit and be able to read, write and talk in the language. The graphs show that 64% of people agree with this fact.

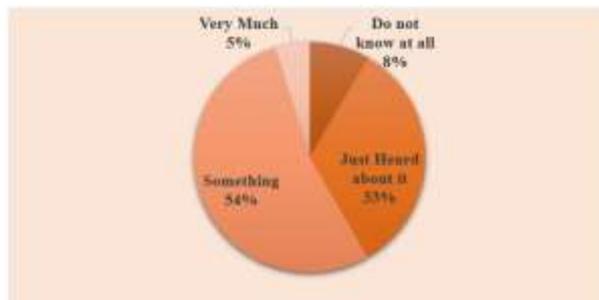


Fig 5: Level of Current knowledge of Vedas that people have

The above graph defines that only 5% of people have a good knowledge of Vedas, and the rest have some or no knowledge about it. This result depicts how far India is drifting away from its root scriptures which are the ultimate source of knowledge.

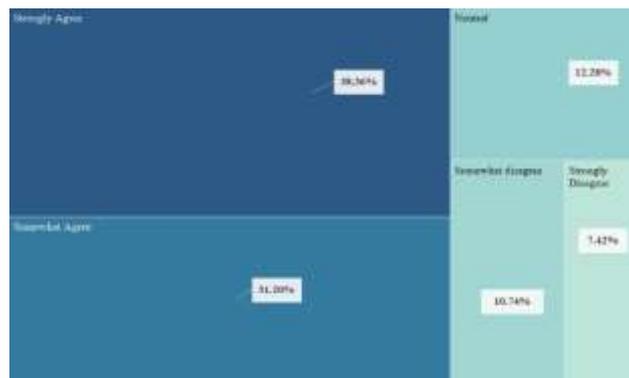


Fig 6: Current Education system emphasizes more on money

Money is one of the key factors through which a person survives, but it should not be the only factor through which a person survives or is happy. However, in today's world, our education system emphasizes more about money factor when a student gets admission to colleges, big hoardings are placed in various places. So much money is spent on advertising to demonstrate that a college provides so-called 100 percent placement, and this is where the game of money begins. A student starts thinking about placements, getting a job, and so on from the first day of college. Not to mention knowledge, which can help society along with earning to survive and for social validation, but what happens is that students engage in earning only because, for many years, money has been defined as the only factor of happiness. Those who do not get a good job always think they are worthless, become sad, and begin overthinking many other consequences.

Most people agree that the current education system emphasizes more on money rather than providing knowledge for the greater good of society. Education has become an excellent business for most people. At the same time, it should be a way so that society can understand the meaning of happiness, socialism, and helping others instead of just earning money till death and being worried about money every single moment of life. From taking admission for higher education till the completion, a student thinks about the placements and job alone instead of which a student should be focussing on gaining knowledge, enjoying the learning period and at the end they can try for jobs.

Vedas are a collection of more than lakhs of mantras/Subhashiams, which can also be taught to school kids, college students, and adults to develop a high sense of morality, good conduct, and the right attitude toward a given situation. When the people were asked about this, 51% had no idea about it, 38% wanted to learn it, and 44% knew about this and wanted to learn it.

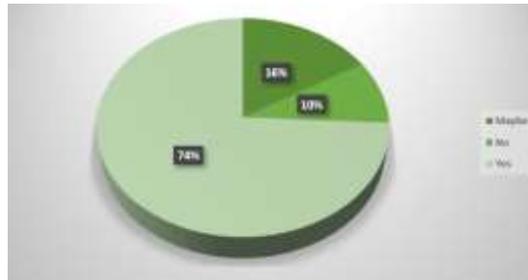


Fig 7: Vedas in Our Education system

The above pie charts represent that 74% of the people surveyed agreed to implementing Vedas in our education system, while 16% responded that maybe Vedas could be implemented. These people agree with both situations, and 10% are not in favor of the implementation of Vedas.

a leader? When asked the same question, 87% agreed that our current education system creates more employees than it makes leaders, while 13% disagreed.

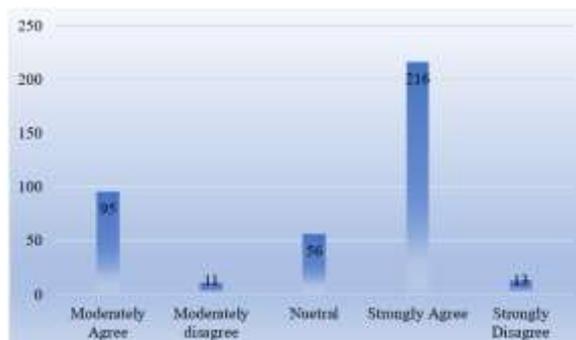


Fig 12: Responses on fail in connecting people

When asked whether the current education system can teach about connecting people or unity, then out of 391 responses, 311 said yes, it fails to connect the people, while only 24 out of 391 said no, it does not fail to connect. Fifty-six people were neutral.

Connecting with people is a critical factor of happiness. This has been proven by many studies conducted so far. In the era of Vedas, people were more connected, which was one of the key reasons why they were happier than the people in the current time. They were successful and structured because when a person is happy, then they tend to get more and more success and happiness in their life.

How Vedas can help to get rid of these issues:

Moral norms are eroding, and people show little regard for one another. People are increasingly socially disconnected as they become more monetarily self-sufficient—societies like this cause many mental health problems. Individuals' mental health can be improved by using Vedic knowledge to focus on psychological development through spiritual activities and good ethics, as it helps them stay focused and motivated. Numerous scientific studies have shown that meditation can be an effective strategy for managing the symptoms of mental diseases, and several psychologists recommend it to their patients.

In Vedas, UNITY among people was being taught, and it was one of the prime focuses in the Vedic era. Children were sent to the gurukul till they completed their education, where they learned how to be independent. The focus of gurukuls was on imparting learning to the students in natural surroundings where the shishyas (students) lived with each other with brotherhood, humanity, love, and discipline. All the students were treated equally by their gurus. Many mantras in Vedas talk about unity, harmony, and happiness like mantra 5-60-5 in Rigveda talks about how all are together, and all are equal, no person is superior to others. The mantra 16.15 in Yajurveda talks about no person being inferior or superior to others. The mantra 3-30-1 says that all humans are meant to love others, not only humans but also animals.

In Sanskrit, there is sloka,

“अयमनिजः परोवेतिगणनालघुचेतसाम।
उदारचरितानामतुवसुधैवकुटुंबकम।”

It means that those who talk about inferiority and superiority among people are having frivolous thinking. For kind people, the whole world is their family.

Research conducted by Harvard University, known as the "Study on Adult development," proves that support and communication, togetherness, and unity not only help to live longer but to lead a healthy life, and that should be the prime goal for each and everyone in this world. Our education lacks in connecting people in the same way they were connected earlier. Today, people in the cities are not even aware of who lives in their neighborhood and are not ready to help each other. They occupy themselves to earn more and more by limiting themselves. The aim of this study is not to convey that earning should not be there and instead, our purpose is to examine it so that it explains that it's good to progress but not at the cost of your happiness.

Case study:

Brahmacharya, Grihastha, Vanaprastha, Sanyasi ashram - Then v/s Now

The four Vedic Ashrams were based on a person's Karma and Dharma. Every ideology sculpted out by ancient India's saints was founded on the grounds of science and rational reasoning. An Indian's average lifespan was said to be 100 years. Based on this, there were four Vedic ashrams: Brahmacharya, Grihastha, Vanaprastha, and Sannyasa. The purpose of each stage or ashram was to fulfill the values that differentiated these stages.

Brahmacharya - This is the initial stage, which lasts up to 25 years of age. During this period, man lives a student's life and is celibate. The goal of this phase is to imbibe self-discipline from an early age. Contrary to the way of living in the 21st century, a student's life is often misguided by materialism and status comparisons creating a constant fear of feeling left behind.

Grihastha: -During this period, one must consider his social and familial life. This stage begins at the age of 25 and lasts until the age of 60. Grihastha is a critical time in a person's life when he must balance his familial and social responsibilities. He is married and runs his household while also caring for the requirements of the outer world.

Vanaprastha - This is the first step towards partial resignation. This period of man's life begins at 50 and lasts until he is 74. His children have grown up, and he gradually withdraws from material connections. Unfortunately, the life cycle is distorted in today's world. At this stage, an individual is often guided by greed and worldly pleasures rather than spirituality.

Sanyasi Ashram- The final stage of his existence is when he fully cuts links with the outside world. This stage begins at the age of 74 and lasts till he dies. He is emotionally detached from everything. He decides to become an ascetic.

From an early age, a man was taught the ways of ethics, self-control, intelligence, pragmatism, love, compassion, and discipline. He was counseled to avoid greed, cruelty, laziness, conceit, and other vices. Unfortunately, the current education system does not emphasize these values from an individual's early learning days.

5. CONCLUSION

In this study, three major aspects were tried to be covered:

1. Sanskrit and Vedas are interrelated. Sanskrit is the best language for programming, so it should be implemented in our education system so that most people can value this language of God. Also, Sanskrit helps to read the Vedas in a far better way than a translated version of it. Also, from the result of chi-square testing, knowledge of Sanskrit and knowledge of Vedas are associated with each other.
2. Approximately 80% of people agree that the current education system lacks in connecting people with each other. In contrast, in the era of Vedas, people were well connected and knew the meaning of togetherness and unity.
3. From the responses, it can be observed that about 70% of the responses agree that the current education system is focusing more on money than providing education and shaping people in such a way that they can be an excellent resource for the greater good of the society, which can be eliminated by providing the knowledge of Vedas from which one can understand that beyond money also lies ways to be happy, money is just a materialistic thing which is required to live life, but it is not a parameter to define the happiness. More money never means more happiness.

The sole purpose of the study is to understand how implementing Vedas knowledge in the current education system helps people get rid of many problems and makes them happy with more minor things. One doesn't require fancy things to be satisfied. Our current education system is sound, but it still involves studying our old scriptures to make people happier.

Ways to implementation of Vedas in the current education system:

The Vedas study can be offered to the students in the form of a language literature study, for which the manuscript of Vedas needs to be translated into various languages. The Indian Institute of Translating and Interpretation might help solve those manuscripts in multiple languages. This can offer to the students in a similar way the Ramayana and Mahabharat are taught in the schools as a part of Hindi literature. Similarly, it can be a part of other language literature if the manuscript of Vedas got translated.

As per the New education policy [22.6], the Indian government has mentioned that Indian institutes will be including classical literature (Vedas and other holy literature) as a part of their curriculum. Many Indian language institutes are working to strengthen this step taken by the government. Also, the Sanskrit language will be offered as mainstream with a strong offering in schools and colleges [One language showing out of three languages] [NEP 2020 - 22.15].

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