



Vedic References on Gem Clarity

By Richard Shaw Brown, PG

Before discussing the gem clarity issue first consider the following bona fide Sanskrit verse quoted in "Manimala" page 575, verse 79 by S. M. Tagore (1879), and also in the ancient "Jataka Parijata," chap. 2, sloka 21 compiled by Sri Vaidyanatha Dikshitar (son of Venkata-dhari), and reads in Sanskrit as follows:

*Manikyam taraneh sujatyam-amalam muktaphalam shitagoh
maheyasya cha vidrumao nigaditah saumyasya-garutmakam
devejyasya cha pushparagam asura-achryasya vajram shaneh
nilam nirmalamanyayoshcha gadite gomeda-vaiduryake*

Translation:

- 1) Ruby for the Sun,
 - 2) Pearl for the Moon,
 - 3) Coral for Mars,
 - 4) Emerald for Mercury,
 - 5) Yellow sapphire for Jupiter,
 - 6) Diamond for Venus,
 - 7) Blue sapphire for Saturn,
 - 8) Hessonite for Rahu (the ascending node of the Moon)
 - 9) Cat's eye for Ketu (the descending node of the Moon),
- [these gems] must be high-born (top quality) and flawless (amala)

In this important sloka the words, "sujatyam-amalam" (sujati = high born, and amala = completely pure or flawless) are very significant. According to bona fide Vedic authority only clean top quality gems are considered to be auspicious.

QUOTES FROM SRI GARUDA PURANA AGAINST USE OF FLAWED GEMS:

NOTE: Although in Sri Garuda Purana, Sri Suta Goswami has said nothing about gem choosing methods, nor planetary associations (except for alluding to gems for the Sun and Moon), nor has anything been said about synthetics, WHAT HE DOES REPEAT IS: "Clarity, quality, purity!!!" Over and over Suta Goswami says top quality, flawless gems ONLY!

Also stating that very flawed gems are actually considered to be harmful!

To further support this important yet mostly over-looked dictate we quote the following slokas from Sri Garuda Purana:

ABOUT NATURAL RUBY: Sri Suta Goswami said, "A ruby, although genuine, should not be worn if it has strong color banding, excessive inclusions within like numerous internal cracks, a sandy appearance, a rough surface, or is dull and lusterless. Anyone using such a flawed ruby, even out of ignorance, will suffer from disease, or loss of fortune." Chap. 70

ABOUT NATURAL PEARL: Sri Suta Goswami said, "A pearl of the auspicious quality should be white, translucent, round in shape, lustrous, and of good weight and size." Chap. 69

ABOUT NATURAL YELLOW SAPPHIRE: Sri Suta Goswami said, "Yellow sapphires must be evenly colored, flawless and well shaped in order to be considered auspicious." Chap. 74

ABOUT NATURAL HESSONITE (Karketana): Sri Suta Goswami said, "Hessonites which are flawed, lack luster, or white or bluish in color are considered inferior and inauspicious." Chap. 75

ABOUT NATURAL EMERALD: Sri Suta Goswami said, "Emeralds considered inauspicious are blackish, devoid of luster, appearing dirty inside or dried and brittle. Anyone concerned with their own well-being should never purchase or wear any oiled, dyed, or treated emerald. Also, emeralds of mixed colors are strictly forbidden." Chap. 71

ABOUT NATURAL DIAMOND: Sri Suta Goswami said, "Anyone wearing a seriously flawed or clouded diamond which refracts a reddish glimmer from defective facet edges, will surely be abandoned by the goddess of fortune. A diamond containing red spots will bring ruin." Chap. 68 part 2

ABOUT NATURAL BLUE SAPPHIRE: Sri Suta Goswami said, "Blue sapphires and all other gems should never be subjected to burning for improving their color and clarity, as misfortune will certainly befall anyone doing so." Chap. 72

ABOUT NATURAL RED CORAL: Sri Suta Goswami said, "A well polished, bright coral with rich, soothing dark-red colors and without flaws is considered very auspicious. It possesses power to increase the riches and wheat supplies of its wearer and also removes obstacles and dangers." Chap. 80

ABOUT NATURAL RED GARNETS: Sri Suta Goswami said, "As with rubies, garnets colored like the petals of the red lotus are considered the rarest and most beautiful and possess the mystic virtue of increasing both the wealth and progeny of their owners." Chap. 77

ABOUT NATURAL GREEN JADE: Sri Suta Goswami said, "Among all gems, fine quality jade has the greatest ability to remove negative karmic reactions." Chap. 79

ABOUT NATURAL QUARTZ CRYSTAL: Sri Suta Goswami said, "Knowledgeable gemologists advise that flawed varieties that are included, fractured, or discolored should be completely avoided." Chap. 76

We repeat: Although in the Puranas nothing has been said about gem choosing methods, nor planetary associations, nor about synthetics, WHAT HAS BEEN SAID IS: "Clarity, quality, purity!!!" Over and over it is stated that only top quality, flawless gems should be used, while very flawed gems cause "disease or loss of fortune."

If a person does not accept only Sri Garuda Puranam as an authoritative shastra, then how about this verse from Sri Agni Purana, "A gem free from all impurities and radiating its characteristic internal luster should be looked upon as an "escort" of good luck. A gem which is cracked, fissured, devoid of luster, or appearing rough or sandy, should not be used at all." ---Sri AGNI-PURANAM: Chapter 246, Verses 7 & 8

Gemstones are the Earth's natural conduit for piezoelectric energy waves that radiate from the Nine planets recognized by the Vedic science of "sidereal" astrology. It is both common sense and the traditional Vedic recommendation that only "clean" gems will receive and transmit "undisturbed" astral energy waves. Since there were no microscopes to detect flaws in those ancient times, clean to them meant eye-clean.

At present, the gem trade has lost much of its integrity because of the widespread treatment of natural gems to conceal or change imperfections. The oiling of flawed emeralds as a routine procedure is an obvious example of such treatment. The oil enters the gem through internal

cracks which break the surface of the stone. After a period of time the oil dries and the flaws are again visible.

A clean and auspicious emerald cannot be oiled because it has no internal cracks breaking the surface. There is no way for oil or anything else to enter into a non-cracked "single unit" gem crystal of auspicious health.

Flawed gems are far less beautiful and can be a source of misfortune. Most people will not buy torn clothes or a new car with obvious defects. Almost no one uses cracked eyeglasses. Isn't it odd that almost everyone uses flawed gems?

A good way to think about gem clarity is to mentally compare the location and seriousness of flaws in a gem to similar defects in your own body. If there are minimal flaws in either a gem or your body, there is life and power. But if the defects are too severe, there is neither life nor power. Vedic texts state clearly that only "amala," CLEAN gems are acceptable for use by thoughtful humans.

Beside the Navaratana, or 9 primary gems, there are many other natural gemstone choices based on color. If one cannot afford the cost of a clean precious gem, one can choose an upa-ratna, or secondary gem.

For example: Instead of selecting emerald for the planet Mercury (Budha-graha), one can also use tsavorite (green grossularite), chrome-green or green tourmaline, chrome-green or green diopside, green peridot or green jade. Jade, an "aggregate" (composed of tiny crystals all fused together) is less preferable than the other Mercury gems which are "single unit" crystals.

There ARE beautiful, eye-clean, unburned precious gems on this planet, but they are scarce and costly. Rather than select a flawed primary gem, it is far wiser to choose a flawless upa-ratna, or secondary gem. These upa-ratnas are less expensive than their precious counterparts, and yet conduct the same astral energy of their associated planet. They are also easier to find without flaws or treatment.

A list of all natural gems and their associated planets...

1) SUN: RUBY (unheated), red spinel, red garnet and red tourmaline (rubellite) for enhancing the Sun;

- 2) MOON: NATURAL (uncultured) PEARL, white coral and moonstone for enhancing the Moon;
- 3) JUPITER: YELLOW SAPPHIRE (unheated), yellow topaz, yellow beryl (heliodor) and yellow tourmaline for enhancing Jupiter;
- 4) RAHU: HESSONITE, orange zircon, spessartite, malaya and other orange garnets for enhancing Rahu (Moon's North Node);
- 5) MERCURY: EMERALD (non-oiled), tsavorite, green tourmaline, green diopside, peridot and green jade for enhancing Mercury;
- 6) VENUS: DIAMOND, white (colorless) sapphire (unheated), white topaz, white beryl (goshenite) and colorless quartz for enhancing Venus ;
- 7) KETU: CAT'S EYE (chrysoberyl), beryl, apatite, fibrolite and tourmaline cat's eye for enhancing Ketu (Moon's South Node);
- 8) SATURN: BLUE SAPPHIRE (unheated), blue tourmaline (indicolite), blue spinel and amethyst for enhancing Saturn;
- 9) MARS: RED CORAL (undyed) and red carnelian for enhancing Mars



