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**INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN COMMERCE AND THE INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM: INTEGRATING TRADITIONAL WISDOM WITH MODERN COMMERCE EDUCATION**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** *The increasing complexity of business ecosystems and the growing demand for value-based management education have encouraged interdisciplinary approaches in commerce studies. In India, the revival and institutional promotion of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) provide an opportunity to integrate indigenous economic thought, ethical philosophy, and governance principles into contemporary commerce education. However, systematic academic exploration of this integration remains limited.*

**Purpose:** *This study aims to examine the scope and relevance of integrating the Indian Knowledge System into commerce education through an interdisciplinary research framework. It seeks to identify conceptual linkages between traditional Indian economic thought and modern business disciplines, and to assess the potential impact of such integration on ethical leadership, sustainability, and curriculum innovation.*

**Method:** *The study adopts a descriptive and exploratory research design. It combines conceptual analysis of classical Indian economic texts—particularly the Arthashastra—with case-based examination of Indian business organizations such as Tata Group and Amul. Additionally, a proposed empirical survey framework is outlined to evaluate perceptions of students and faculty regarding the relevance of IKS in commerce education.*

**Findings:** *The analysis indicates strong conceptual alignment between IKS principles—such as Dharma (ethical duty), collective welfare, participatory governance, and sustainable resource management—and modern business concepts including corporate governance, social responsibility, and inclusive growth. Case illustrations demonstrate that Indian enterprises implicitly reflect indigenous ethical and community-centric models. Preliminary empirical expectations suggest positive stakeholder perception toward curriculum integration of IKS.*

**Implications:** *The study contributes to interdisciplinary commerce research by positioning IKS as a viable intellectual resource rather than merely a cultural artifact. It offers practical implications for curriculum reform, policy formulation, and leadership development in higher education institutions. Integrating IKS into commerce education may enhance ethical reasoning, contextual sensitivity, and sustainable business orientation among future professionals, thereby aligning academic practice with India's evolving educational and economic priorities.*

**Keywords:** *Interdisciplinary Research, Commerce Education, Indian Knowledge System, Arthashastra, Ethical Leadership, Sustainable Business, Curriculum Reform*