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**Editor**

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President

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Dr. Chandrakanta Panda

B.T.M. College, Barabhum, Barabazar

Purulia, 723127, West Bengal

Editor

Dr. Jagamohan Acharya

Department of Sanskrit,

Kharagpur College, Inda, Kharagpur

Paschim Medinipur, 721305, West Bengal

*I hereby declare that the above mentioned information is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

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Sd/  
Professor Dr. Gopal Krishna Dash  
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## **Rajdharma and Good Governance in Ancient India**

**Subrata Paria**

Governance is a buzzword within developing, developed countries and academics. Governance refers to the developments of governing styles in public, private sector of state. According to Stoker, Governance refers to a complex set of institution, responsibilities, self-governing networks of actors, World Bank defines governance as the institutional capacity of public organisation to provide the public and other good demanded by a country's citizen in an effective, transparent impartial and accountable mannes, subject to resource constraints.<sup>1</sup>

Good Governance is a popular term in any State, Society and administration Basically good governance is a participative system where people are motivated for their welfare and solving problems. It was only in the foreword, that former world Bank President Barber Conable (1986 – 1991) used the term good governance, referring to it as a “Public service that is efficient a judicial system that is reliable and an administration that is accountable to its Public”.<sup>2</sup>

A UN document defines “Good Governance” as being participatory, consensus oriented accountable, transparent, responsive, effective, and efficient, equitable and inclusive and rule of law (vogakshema the Ancient Indian concept of good Governance.<sup>3</sup>

Though good governance is new idea but it is rooted in old Indian Civilization. In ancient India, the rulers were bound by dharma. Basically dharma is called Rajadharma, Rajdharma means duites of Raja, Scarifies of Raja, code of conduct or the rule of law, welfare of people. It ensured peace, justice and prosperity to the people. Rajadharma is found in ancient Indian scriptures like Mahavarty, Jataka tales, Shukrachar's Nitisar, Valmiki's Ramayana, Manu, Kautilya's Arthasastra.

In this conception Rajdharma is good governance in ancient period. In Ramayana, moral values, obedience, simple living, high thinking, sacrifices, devotion, dedication, commitment, humanity,