



does not end with that note. It ends with a message of **hope that man can get rid of suffering** by his own effort in this life itself. Thus "pessimism in Indian philosophy is only initial, not final".

c. **Indian philosophy starts with a pessimistic note but ends with optimism.**

- Another misconception about Indian philosophy is that it is dogmatic. This means that it accepts and presents views without any prior examination of them. This observation is primarily based on the fact that Indian philosophy accepts authority as a source of valid knowledge.
 - a. We can correct such view by showing that though authority is considered as a valid source of knowledge it is accepted with thorough prior examination.
 - b. The philosophical systems in India make elaborate discussion on the problem called sources of knowledge.
 - c. The Carvaka analysis and consequent rejection of inference and authority as sources of knowledge shows how much critical the Indian philosophers are.
 - d. Epistemological and logical problems are discussed in all the systems of Indian philosophy. Therefore Indian philosophy should not be called dogmatic. The critical approach is very much there in Indian philosophy.