



# Scientific Aspects of Agnihotra: Purification of the Atmosphere by Agnihotra (Part 1)

February 16, 2018

*Were we to highlight major problems facing our planet and all of its inhabitants, certainly air pollution would rank high on the list. As Agnihotra and Homa Therapy can easily be done by individuals and families, the solution to protect ourselves and our families is at hand. For a scientific rationale, an interesting article written by Dr. Ulrich Berk from Germany about how Agnihotra purifies the atmosphere follows.–Ecovillage Bhrgu Aranya*

*by Dr. Ulrich Berk  
Germany*

The main statement of Homa Therapy is: Agnihotra heals the atmosphere – and the healed atmosphere heals the environment, plants, animals, and humans.

How can we understand that statement in terms of modern science? And then, as a second step, see whether modern scientific research can either confirm or refute such statements?

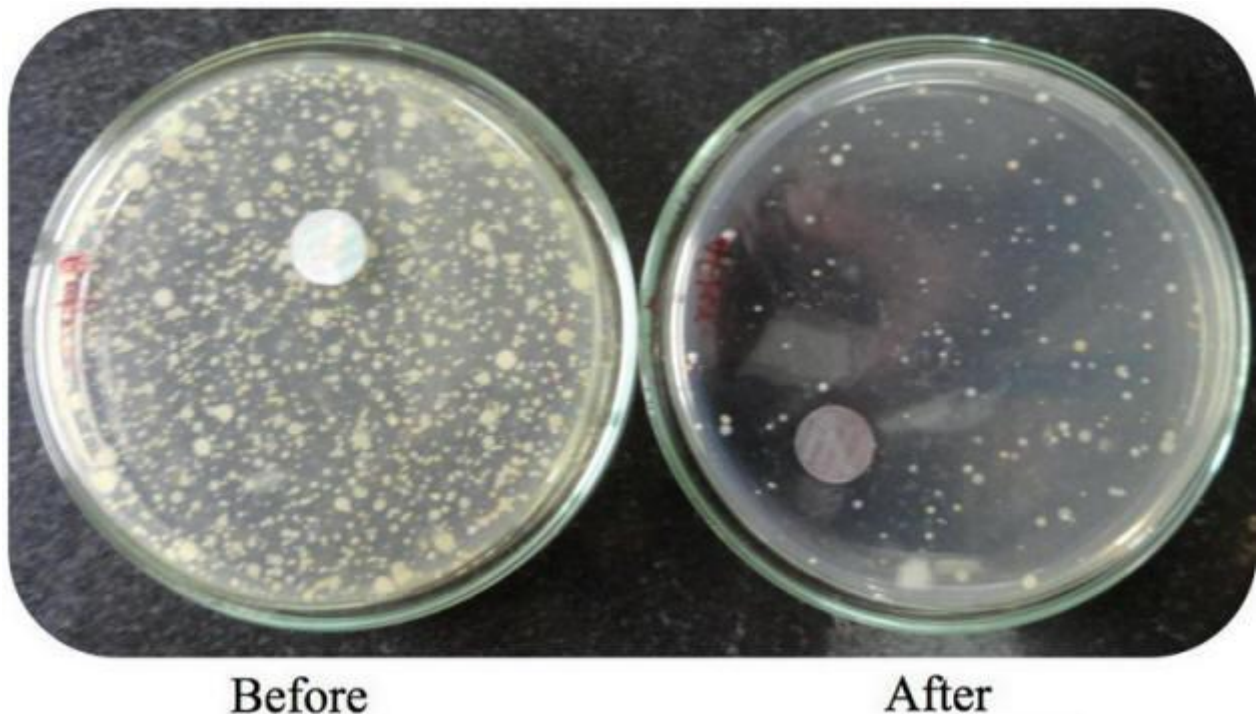
We will cover all these aspects of Agnihotra – effects on our environment (air, soil, and water resources), plant life including agriculture and horticulture, animal health and animal breeding, and human health in the following issues of this newsletter.

Let us now begin with the effect of Agnihotra in purifying our air. We can distinguish three forms of air pollution: biological, chemical, and physical air pollution. Actually, there is one

more form of pollution of our atmosphere – that is thought pollution. Although this perhaps is the worst form (as it leads to the other forms of pollution), we will deal with that aspect later on, as a scientific examination is a bit more complicated.

Biological air pollution is the presence of pathogenic bacteria and viruses. Will this contamination be reduced by performing Agnihotra? Several studies have confirmed this assumption. The first of such studies was done in the eighties of last century at one Warsaw university in Poland. It showed that the bacterial count went down, starting right after Agnihotra. After 12 hours, less than 10% of the original bacterial count was remaining. That would have been the time for next Agnihotra.

Alas, we do not have a photo documentation of this early experiment. But we do have photos and data from replications. One was done at Fergusson College (one of the leading colleges in Pune, India) a few years back. The difference between before and after Agnihotra is obvious – although the “after” measurement was taken only half an hour after Agnihotra.



It will be interesting to see the effect after 12 hours, and even more interesting to see what happens if we perform Agnihotra regularly for one week or for one month.

(See the full report, Scientific Study of Vedic Knowledge Agnihotra, on experiments performed at Fergusson College, Pune, India.)

Chemical air pollution refers to chemical compounds detrimental to our health. Modern technology has brought a lot of such compounds into our homes, many of them potentially harmful for humans. A series of experiments was conducted recently at Vikram University, Ujjain, M.P., and at North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon, India. They tested the chemical compounds SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> which are produced by any form of combustion, and the levels are getting alarmingly high—especially in cities, because of all the cars with combustion engines. Also these experiments measured physical pollution, i.e. particle pollution. See the results:

### **Ambient Air Quality Report**

(Values are in µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

Sampling Period: – 30 min

Date	Time		SO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	RSPM	SPM
28/03/2016	5:15 to 5:45	Before Homa	7.9	27.3	105	69
28/03/2016	6:30 to 7:00	During Homa	6.2	23.7	75	63
28/03/2016	7:00 to 7:30	After Homa	8.3	29.1	152	83
29/03/2016	10:30 to 11:00	After 15 hrs of Homa	5.6	21.9	56	47

SO<sub>x</sub>: Sulfur Oxides

NO<sub>x</sub>: Oxides of Nitrogen

RSPM: Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (particle size equal or less than 10 micrometres – these small particles can go deep into our respiratory system).

SPM: Suspended Particulate Matter (particles floating in the air)

The sampling was done with a high-volume air sampler which sucks in the air and then presses it through a filter. Particles are stuck in the filter, depending on the filter specifications.

Although the values go up a little bit after Agnihotra (which is to be expected, as fire creates some level of SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, as well as some smoke, which means particles), after some time all values go down well below the levels we had before Agnihotra. This means that Agnihotra purifies our air also from these chemical and physical pollutants. The experiments were done both at sunrise and at sunset in order to rule out any effects of normal variations between day and night.