



# Hope for the world

## A Prayer Of Hope From The Upanishad

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The coming of Christ into the world holds many meanings for many different people. For us as A Rocha India, it is primarily a message of hope.

Although we do feel despair when we look around us, we are nevertheless filled with hope when we look to Christ and reflect on his coming.

Indeed, it is the hope that is our greatest source of empowerment. And so, despite all difficulties in this past year, we join our voices with the apostle Paul and affirm that 'we are saved by hope' (Romans 8:24).

In December 22nd 2011 our director and founder Dr Vijay Anand died – a situation where there was darkness. But a Saviour, Liberator, is come who has ushered in peace.

A prayer from the Upanishad used by the different faiths, which has a message of hope for all people:

*Asato Maa Sad-Gamaya*

Keep me not in unreality but lead me towards the reality

*Tamaso Maa Jyotir-Gamaya*

Keep me not in the darkness, but lead me towards the light

*Mrtyor-Maa Amrtam Gamaya*

Keep me not in the death, but lead me towards the immortality

*Shaantih Shaantih Shaantih*

May there be peace, peace, peace



Prem Mitra is a theologian and an activist on behalf of Dalits. A Presbyterian in St Mark's Cathedral, he is chairperson of A Rocha India.

[advent.arocha.org.uk](http://advent.arocha.org.uk) (Prem Mitra – 23rd December)



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