

Kamani Jayasekera, 2008. **The Union of Religion and Philosophy in Pythagoras**
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Pythagoras is a philosopher studied for many reasons. The intention of this was to focus on the basic number philosophy presented by Pythagoras. His philosophy had provided man with a way of life and a goal in life with notions of life after death. These are usually given to man by religions. Thus one could observe how his philosophy is connected with religion in Pythagoras. It is also believed that his first intention had been to form a group promoting new thoughts on religion. Dissatisfaction with the remaining religious thoughts would have led him to do this. Close scrutiny proves the connection of how one could harmonize and thereby purify the soul by the concentration and contemplation of the working of the universe. The connections prove interesting and enlightening to those versed with the eastern religions. His ideas on birth, rebirth and vegetarianism as well as the cycle of rebirth according to the quality of the soul of the individual are interesting. The salvation or emancipation of the soul from the cycle and thereby the ability to terminate being born again has a connection with the quality of the soul one possesses at the end. And the said quality being a direct result of one's conduct and accumulated experience is shown by this study in a thought provoking manner. The ultimate result being a responsibility of one is the ultimate verdict.