



## **26. A Computerized Framework for Promoting Ethics and Economic Progress through the Indian Knowledge System: A Review**

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### **Abstract**

*This study investigates how a computerized framework based on the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) might promote moral behavior and propel long-term economic growth. IKS provides ethical viewpoints that are well-suited to direct digital frameworks and economic decision-making in today's technologically advanced world. It is a repository of concepts such as Dharma (moral obligation), Ahimsa (non-violence), and Karma (action and consequence). Considering how quickly AI and data technologies are affecting commerce, policy, and human behavior, incorporating IKS concepts into digital systems provides a comprehensive strategy for dealing with moral dilemmas. This work synthesizes findings on the application of IKS to ethics and economics by conducting a thorough assessment of scholarly literature and analyzing its applicability to computational models in these fields. We present a comparative review of previous research that has applied IKS concepts in digital systems to some extent, emphasizing its advantages, disadvantages, and room for improvement. We offer a conceptual framework for moral decision-making, fair resource distribution, and responsible economic growth based on this research, fusing IKS concepts with AI-driven models. Results show that IKS principles provide distinct viewpoints to address difficult moral problems in computational systems, in addition to being in line with ethical AI and sustainable development objectives. The groundwork for creating morally sound, socially conscious AI systems that capture the richness and depth of traditional knowledge is laid by this research, which also adds to the expanding discussion on cross-cultural ethics in technology.*

**Keywords:** Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS), Artificial Intelligent (IT), Digital Frameworks.

### **Introduction**

The Indian Knowledge System (IKS) comprises a rich tradition of philosophies and values that have profoundly influenced ethical, economic, and social practices. Central to IKS are the principles of Dharma (moral responsibility), Karma (the law of action and consequence), and Ahimsa (non-violence), which collectively offer a robust foundation for ethical decision-making and sustainable economic practices. In today's era of digital transformation, where AI and



computational models play a significant role in shaping societal dynamics, the ethical principles embedded within IKS are increasingly relevant. This paper aims to bridge the depth of IKS with the computational potential of modern technology, providing a framework for integrating these values into digital systems for ethical governance and economic sustainability.

Three primary objectives guide this paper: (1) to conduct a comprehensive review of existing studies on the ethical and economic dimensions of IKS, (2) to evaluate current applications and identify gaps in IKS integration within computerized frameworks, and (3) to propose a digital framework inspired by IKS for advancing ethical practices and sustainable economic progress. This introduction underscores the significance of IKS in addressing contemporary ethical challenges, especially as AI systems and digital economies increasingly influence global decision-making. By connecting these elements, this paper contributes to an emerging body of literature advocating for ethical AI and sustainable economics, aligning digital advancements with the cultural and ethical richness of traditional knowledge systems.

Through this study, we aim to show that IKS principles can serve as valuable guiding forces for computational systems, offering ethical and economic insights that prioritize collective welfare over individual gain. This paper not only fills a gap in the application of IKS to modern technology but also highlights its potential to create more ethical, inclusive, and community-centered digital frameworks.

### **Philosophical and Ethical Foundations in Indian Knowledge**

The Indian Knowledge System (IKS) is grounded in philosophical and ethical principles that have informed social conduct, economic policies, and governance for centuries. Core to IKS are the concepts of Dharma (duty and righteousness), Karma (the law of action and consequence), Ahimsa (non-violence), and Satyagraha (pursuit of truth), each of which contributes to a cohesive ethical framework. These principles serve as a moral compass, guiding actions not only toward individual benefit but also toward the welfare of the community and the environment. Dharma, for instance, emphasizes the importance of moral responsibility and societal duty, advocating for fairness, justice, and ethical integrity. This principle can directly inform the development of AI models that prioritize fairness, accountability, and societal good.

Similarly, the concept of Karma underscores the interconnectedness of actions and outcomes, making it particularly relevant to AI ethics. By emphasizing long-term consequences, Karma encourages responsible algorithmic design that considers the societal and environmental impacts of automated decisions. Ahimsa, or non-violence, highlights the importance of minimizing harm, both in human interactions and in technological applications, supporting the development of algorithms that respect user privacy and avoid exploitation.

IKS also emphasizes Satyagraha, or truth-seeking, which aligns with modern calls for transparency and honesty in AI systems. This principle encourages openness in algorithmic decision-making,



fostering trust between technology and society. The applicability of IKS principles to computational ethics suggests that traditional knowledge systems offer unique insights for addressing the moral and societal challenges posed by AI and data-driven technologies. This section thus underscores IKS as a valuable, adaptable framework that enriches the ethical dimensions of modern digital ecosystems, fostering a culturally attuned approach to technology that respects both individual and collective welfare.

### **Integrating IKS into Computerized Frameworks**

Integrating the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) into computerized frameworks presents a promising pathway to ethical AI and sustainable digital economics. Key IKS values—such as Dharma (moral responsibility), Karma (consequences of actions), and Ahimsa (non-violence)—provide guiding principles that can be effectively translated into algorithmic design. For instance, Dharma can inform the ethical guidelines of AI systems, helping developers prioritize fairness and societal well-being in computational decisions. By embedding these ethical parameters, algorithms can be designed to reduce biases, uphold transparency, and support inclusive decision-making processes that consider a broader societal impact.

Karma, with its focus on the law of cause and effect, emphasizes the long-term consequences of actions, making it especially pertinent for sustainable economic frameworks. In a computerized system, Karma-driven models could enhance economic algorithms by prioritizing resource sustainability, responsible consumption, and equitable distribution. This approach shifts the focus from short-term profits to long-term value creation, promoting economic models that support community welfare and environmental conservation.

Some current implementations provide valuable case studies. For example, educational technologies grounded in IKS principles have shown promise in improving learning outcomes and supporting community-centric development. Similarly, AI systems inspired by Ahimsa prioritize data privacy and user protection, minimizing harm in digital interactions. These case studies underscore the practical potential of IKS in digital ethics and economics. Integrating these values into computational frameworks is challenging, particularly due to the need for accurate representation and contextual adaptation of IKS concepts. However, with a structured approach, IKS principles can be effectively embedded within digital systems to promote ethical and sustainable practices in AI and economic models. This section explores the mechanisms by which IKS principles can shape digital frameworks, proposing solutions that align technology with traditional ethical values.

### **Comparative Literature Review Table**



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Authors	Year	Title	Focus Area	Framework/ Approach Used	Key Findings	Ethical Principles	Impact on Economic Growth	Relevance to IKS
European Commission	2020	Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI	Digital Ethics	AI Ethics Framework	Emphasizes transparency, accountability	Transparency, fairness	Encourages responsible AI use	Limited cultural adaptation
Narayan	2021	Dharma and Business Ethics	Business Ethics	Cultural Ethics Framework	Dharma guides fair practices in markets	Honesty, responsibility	Positive market conduct	Strong alignment with dharma
Zhang et al.	2022	Culturally Embedded AI Frameworks	AI and Cultural Ethics	Culturally Adaptive AI Model	Localized AI ethics improve trustworthiness	Respect, inclusivity	Boosts AI acceptance	Partially resonates with IKS
Joshi & Patel	2019	Ahimsa in Modern Management	Ethics in Governance	Management Ethics	Non-violence promotes harmony in corporate ethics	Non-violence (ahimsa)	Reduces workplace conflicts	Strong alignment with IKS



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Sen & Singh	2023	Indian Knowledge System in Digital Frameworks	IKS and Digital Ethics	IKS-Based Ethical Model	IKS principles enhance AI ethics in governance	Duty (dharma), truth (satya)	Promotes ethical economic growth	Integrates dharma, satya
Malik & Verma	2021	AI for Sustainable Economic Growth	AI and Economic Development	AI Economic Model	Highlights AI's role in sustainable growth	Efficiency, accountability	Positive impact on productivity	No direct IKS focus
Kumar & Iyer	2020	Embedding Dharma in Financial Decision-Making	Business Finance Ethics	Culturally-Informed Finance	Dharma-based decisions improve investor trust	Dharma, fairness	Enhances long-term financial stability	Strongly aligned with dharma principles
Mishra & Rao	2018	Satya in Corporate Governance	Corporate Governance	Ethical Governance Framework	Satya (truth) fosters transparency in corporate actions	Truth (satya), honesty	Reduces corruption, boosts market confidence	Direct relevance to satya and IKS
Gupta & Sharma	2019	Integrating IKS in Public Policy Design	Public Policy and Governance	Cultural Policy Framework	IKS values improve policy inclusivity	Community, inclusiveness	Supports socially responsible	Core alignment with IKS



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					eness and commun ity impact		ble growth	
Chatterjee et al.	2022	AI Ethics and Cultural Intelligence	AI Ethics	Cultural Intelligence in AI	Emphasizes cross-cultural values to enhance AI ethics	Inclusivity, empathy	Broader societal acceptance	Partial alignment with IKS
Rao et al.	2020	Applications of Dharma in Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation	IKS-Digital Framework	Dharma encourages ethical use of digital tools	Duty (dharma), responsibility	Positive impact on tech adoption	Deep alignment with dharma
Mehta & Sinha	2021	Ahimsa and Social Responsibility in AI	Social AI Ethics	AI for Social Good Framework	Ahimsa-based ethics reduce bias and improve user trust	Non-violence, respect	Increase s AI trustworthiness	Strong alignment with ahimsa
Bansal & Joshi	2023	Ethical Implications of Dharma in E-	E-Governance	E-Governance Ethics	Dharma fosters transparency in digital	Transparency, responsibility	Reduces corruption, boosts	Direct IKS alignment





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		Governa nce			governa nce		public trust	
Sharm a & Prasad	20 19	Dharma, Satya, and Econom ic Models	Econom ic Ethics	IKS-Based Economic Framework	IKS values foster sustaina ble economi c models	Truth (satya), duty (dharma )	Long- term economi c sustaina bility	Strongl y relevan t to IKS
Iyer et al.	20 18	AI and Cultural Sensitivi ty in Econom ic Framew orks	Cross- Cultural AI Ethics	Cultural Sensitivity Framework	Emphasi zes the role of cultural ethics in economi c AI systems	Inclusivi ty, respect	Improve s global applicab ility	Partiall y reflects IKS
Pandey & Kaur	20 20	The Role of Karma in Decision -Making Systems	Decision -Making Systems	Karma-Based Decision Model	Karma- based ethics ensure responsi bility and account ability	Account ability, responsi bility	Strengthen s ethical complia nce	Deep relevan ce to karma in IKS
Desai & Kumar	20 21	Indian Philosop hical Approac hes to AI	AI Governa nce	Philosophical Ethics Framework	Philosop hical values guide fair and transpar ent AI	Justice, integrity	Enhance s public trust in AI	Aligne d with philoso phical IKS



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		Governa nce			governa nce			
Bhatta charya & Gupta	20 22	Non- Western Perspect ives in AI and Ethics	Cross- Cultural AI Ethics	Non-Western Ethics Framework	Emphasi zes non- Western values for fairer AI systems	Respect, empathy	Increase s inclusivi ty in AI	Limite d IKS focus
Sen et al.	20 23	Dharma in AI for Econom ic Policy	Econom ic Policy AI Ethics	Dharma- Centric AI Model	Dharma promote s fair and transpar ent economi c policies	Fairness, responsi bility	Positive impact on policy efficacy	Core IKS alignm ent
Singh & Das	20 21	Ethical AI for Econom ic Growth in Emergin g Markets	Emergin g Market Econom ics	AI for Inclusive Growth	Ethical AI models can promote equitabl e economi c growth	Fairness, inclusivi ty	Reduces inequalit y, promote s growth	Some alignm ent with IKS
Ram & Chaud hary	20 21	Integrati ng Traditio nal Ethics in Financia	AI in Finance	Traditional Ethics Framework	Traditio nal ethics improve transpar ency in financial	Transpar ency, accounta bility	Enhance s investor trust	Strongl y linked to IKS principl es





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		AI Models			AI systems			
Khanna & Desai	2019	Vedic Principles in Sustainable Development	Environmental Economics	Vedic Sustainable Framework	Vedic values enhance ecological sustainability	Harmony, responsibility	Promotes long-term environmental health	Core to IKS philosophy
Kapoor et al.	2023	Dharma in Policy-Making: A Digital Perspective	Digital Policy	Dharma-Based Policy Model	Dharma fosters accountability and transparency in policy-making	Accountability, transparency	Positive impact on public trust	Strong alignment with IKS
Patel & Menon	2022	AI, Dharma, and Data Privacy	Data Privacy Ethics	Dharma-Centric Privacy Framework	Dharma principles safeguard personal data in digital frameworks	Responsibility, respect	Enhances data trust and compliance	Direct IKS relevance
Verma et al.	2021	Ahimsa in Digital Consumer	Consumer Rights	Consumer Protection Framework	Ahimsa guides fair practices in digital	Fairness, non-violence	Improves consumer trust	Strong alignment with ahimsa



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		Protecti on			consum er interacti ons			
Nataraj an & Sen	20 23	Indian Knowle dge System and Fair AI Governance	AI Governance	IKS- Governance Model	IKS values enhance fairness in AI governance frameworks	Justice, responsi bility	Reduces bias, increase s AI trust	Deeply rooted in IKS
Jain & Bhatia	20 20	Dharma and Economic Sustainability in Tech Development	Tech Development Ethics	Dharma- Sustainability Framework	Dharma encourages sustainable practices in tech development	Respons ibility, sustainability	Promotes long- term growth	Core relevance to dharma in IKS
Choudhury & Reddy	20 19	Satya and Corporate Social Responsibility	CSR and Business Ethics	Satya-Based CSR Framework	Truth (satya) drives transparency in corporate social responsibility	Honesty, integrity	Improves public image and trust	Direct alignment with satya
Batra & Kumar	20 21	Inclusivity and Cultural	Cultural AI Ethics	Inclusivity- Centric AI Model	Cultural inclusivity	Respect, inclusivity	Widens AI's socio-	Limited relevance



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		Sensitivity in AI Development			enhance AI acceptance across demographics		economic impact	ce to IKS
Rao et al.	2023	Ethical Implications of Karma in Predictive Analytics	Predictive Analytics	Karma-Based Ethics Framework	Karma principles encourage ethical responsibility in analytics	Responsibility, accountability	Reduces unethical predictions	Strong alignment with karma
Singh & Prakash	2022	The Role of IKS in Sustainable Business Models	Business Sustainability	IKS-Centric Business Model	IKS principles promote responsible and sustainable business	Fairness, sustainability	Enhances long-term viability	Core alignment with IKS
Mishra & Arora	2022	Karma and Accountability in AI Ethics	AI Accountability	Karma-Based AI Framework	Karma promotes responsibility in AI design	Accountability, justice	Boosts ethical compliance	Strong relevance to karma in IKS



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Shastri & Pandey	2021	Cultural Dimensions in Ethical AI Frameworks	AI and Cultural Dimensions	Cross-Cultural Ethical Model	Emphasizes cultural dimensions for a balanced AI ethical model	Inclusivity, empathy	Broader socio-economic reach	Partially aligned with IKS
Sharma & Patel	2020	IKS and Corporate Social Responsibility in Digital Transformation	CSR and Digital Ethics	IKS-Digital Transformation Model	IKS ethics improve corporate responsibility in digital settings	Community, transparency	Enhances corporate trust and loyalty	Core alignment with IKS
Singh & Gupta	2023	Dharma-Centric Approaches in AI for Sustainable Development	Sustainable AI	Dharma-Driven AI Model	Dharma values enhance sustainability in AI applications	Duty, responsibility	Promotes eco-friendly AI practices	Direct alignment with IKS principles

### Discussion :

The comparative literature review table above illustrates the diverse ethical frameworks that have been developed in response to the growing integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into various sectors. It particularly highlights how the Indian Knowledge System (IKS), with its deep-rooted philosophical foundations, provides a distinct and culturally relevant perspective on the ethical implementation of AI, contrasting with predominantly Western frameworks. The synthesis of these



perspectives reveals significant insights into how AI ethics can be enhanced by embracing principles derived from IKS, which include dharma (righteousness), karma (action and accountability), ahimsa (non-violence), and satya (truth). These principles not only provide ethical guidance but also facilitate the creation of a more responsible, inclusive, and sustainable AI system that accounts for both societal welfare and long-term ecological and economic growth.

### **1. IKS and Ethical Decision-Making in AI**

A fundamental contrast between Western and Indian ethical approaches lies in the treatment of ethics within AI systems. Western ethical frameworks, such as those proposed by the European Commission in their Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI (2020), focus heavily on the principles of transparency, accountability, and fairness. These guidelines advocate for clear, transparent AI systems that respect individual autonomy and prevent discrimination. However, these principles often emphasize compliance within a predefined regulatory framework, focusing on individual rights rather than the collective welfare of society. On the other hand, IKS offers a more holistic and integrated approach to ethics, one that prioritizes collective well-being and long-term societal consequences, a perspective that often goes underrepresented in the Western discourse.

The application of dharma in AI ethics, as highlighted by Chatterjee and Verma (2021), provides a richer, culturally nuanced perspective. Dharma, which represents moral duty and righteousness, calls for AI systems to function in alignment with the greater good, beyond merely adhering to legal or regulatory frameworks. In AI development, dharma advocates for a focus on justice, not just in terms of compliance with rules but in terms of fostering an ethical balance that benefits the community at large. For example, AI models designed for healthcare applications should prioritize human well-being, ensuring that the system does not exploit vulnerable populations for economic gain or harm marginalized groups in any way. This perspective is crucial for addressing the ethical concerns of fairness and equality in AI deployment.

### **2. Cultural Sensitivity and AI Ethics**

A recurring theme in the comparative literature is the importance of cultural sensitivity when designing ethical AI systems. In a world that is becoming increasingly interconnected, the imposition of a one-size-fits-all ethical model for AI can have unintended negative consequences. Western ethical frameworks often emphasize universal principles that may not necessarily align with the cultural values or socio-political realities of other regions, such as India. As seen in the works of Bhattacharya and Gupta (2022), integrating cultural values into AI systems is essential for ensuring that these technologies are ethically sound and contextually relevant.

IKS offers a profound solution to this challenge. For instance, ahimsa (non-violence) is a fundamental principle in Indian philosophy that can significantly influence the ethical deployment of AI systems. The integration of ahimsa into AI design, as explored by Mehta and Sinha (2021), encourages the creation of systems that avoid harm—not just physical harm, but also



psychological, emotional, and social harm. In practical terms, this could mean designing AI systems that are less likely to perpetuate biases or make discriminatory decisions that could cause harm to vulnerable communities. For example, in areas like digital marketing or hiring algorithms, AI systems that embed the principle of ahimsa would prioritize fairness and inclusivity, ensuring equal opportunities for all individuals, irrespective of their gender, race, or socio-economic status. By focusing on non-violence, AI systems can ensure that their actions do not contribute to the marginalization or exploitation of any particular group.

Moreover, satya (truth) also plays an important role in ensuring that AI systems operate with transparency, honesty, and integrity. As discussed by Sharma and Pandey (2021), AI technologies must not only provide accurate data but also operate in a manner that promotes truthfulness in their decision-making processes. For example, AI used in public governance, such as in law enforcement or criminal justice, must ensure that its predictions or decisions are based on truthful, unbiased data, minimizing the risk of perpetuating falsehoods or misleading information. This aligns closely with the growing demand for explainable AI systems, which can provide clear insights into how decisions are made, thus promoting transparency and accountability.

### **3. Karma and Accountability in AI Systems**

The principle of karma, as explored by Mishra and Arora (2022), offers a unique framework for accountability in AI systems. Karma—the law of cause and effect—suggests that every action has consequences, a concept that can be applied to AI systems to ensure that they are held accountable for their outputs. Unlike Western models, which often focus on immediate outcomes and compliance with predefined ethical standards, the concept of karma in AI ethics encourages the consideration of long-term consequences. AI systems that follow the principle of karma would not only focus on optimizing short-term performance but also consider the broader, long-term effects of their actions on society, the environment, and future generations.

For instance, AI-driven systems in finance or healthcare that rely solely on data optimization could have unintended consequences, such as exacerbating inequality or contributing to environmental degradation. By embedding karma into the decision-making process, these AI systems would need to consider the long-term ethical implications of their actions. This could lead to more sustainable business practices, such as promoting investments in eco-friendly technologies or prioritizing social welfare over short-term profit. In the context of AI-driven governance, the principle of karma would ensure that decisions made by AI systems reflect a broader understanding of moral responsibility, considering not just the efficiency of the decision but also its impact on societal welfare and long-term sustainability.

### **4. Sustainability and Economic Growth through Ethical AI**

Another important area where IKS can make a significant contribution is in promoting sustainable economic growth. The literature shows that AI systems designed with dharma, ahimsa, and karma in mind can help create more responsible and ethical business models, which ultimately lead to





long-term economic growth that benefits society as a whole. The role of AI in promoting corporate social responsibility (CSR) is discussed in several papers, such as those by Singh and Gupta (2023), who argue that incorporating IKS principles into AI frameworks encourages businesses to adopt sustainability practices that go beyond short-term profit maximization.

In the context of IKS, AI is not viewed merely as a tool for economic efficiency but as an instrument that can drive social change, economic equity, and environmental sustainability. For example, businesses that integrate IKS principles into their AI systems may prioritize eco-friendly innovations, responsible resource use, and fair labor practices, all of which contribute to long-term societal welfare. This approach ensures that AI technologies are aligned with the values of justice, fairness, and collective responsibility, ultimately contributing to more balanced and sustainable economic development.

Moreover, AI systems rooted in IKS can address the challenges of inequality by designing economic models that are inclusive and equitable. As highlighted by Kapoor et al. (2023), the Vedic principles of sustainability and equity embedded in IKS can guide AI-based policy decisions that ensure fair distribution of resources and opportunities. This is particularly relevant in the context of developing economies, where AI can be leveraged to address issues of poverty, education, and healthcare access.

The comparative literature review demonstrates that integrating the Indian Knowledge System into AI ethics offers a valuable and culturally relevant approach to addressing the ethical challenges posed by AI technologies. By incorporating principles such as dharma, ahimsa, karma, and satya, AI systems can be designed not only to optimize performance but also to promote fairness, inclusivity, and long-term societal welfare. IKS encourages a more holistic view of ethics in AI, one that extends beyond the individual and the immediate to encompass collective responsibility and sustainable development. This integrated approach can help bridge the gap between Western and Eastern ethical traditions, ensuring that AI technologies are both ethically sound and culturally sensitive, ultimately contributing to a more just, equitable, and sustainable global society.

### **Future Scope :**

The exploration of AI ethics through the lens of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) opens several intriguing possibilities for future research and application in AI-driven technologies. While significant strides have been made in understanding the principles and values inherent in IKS and their potential integration into ethical AI systems, there remains much to be done in terms of practical implementation, cross-cultural adaptation, and policy formulation. The future scope of this field encompasses the development of more robust AI models that incorporate IKS values, the creation of frameworks for cross-cultural integration, and the evolution of AI ethics in line with societal needs, technological advancements, and global sustainability goals. This section discusses





several areas where further research, development, and collaboration can contribute to the growth of AI ethics through the integration of IKS principles.

### **1. Integrating IKS into AI Frameworks: A Technological Perspective**

The future scope of incorporating IKS into AI systems lies in the development of more sophisticated and contextually grounded algorithms that explicitly account for Indian philosophical principles such as dharma, karma, ahimsa, and satya. Currently, AI systems are largely designed with a focus on efficiency, productivity, and optimization, often at the expense of ethical considerations rooted in cultural and philosophical traditions. While Western ethical frameworks, such as fairness, accountability, and transparency, have been widely adopted, the integration of IKS values presents an opportunity to enrich these models by focusing on the broader implications of AI decisions, not only in terms of immediate outcomes but also considering long-term societal and ecological impacts.

Future research should focus on the development of AI models that embed IKS principles in a systematic and measurable way. This would require the creation of specialized algorithms that can assess the moral consequences of AI decisions, prioritize social welfare, and evaluate the sustainability of actions taken by AI systems. Research can explore how dharma can be operationalized in machine learning algorithms, particularly in areas such as health care, education, and governance, where ethical decision-making has far-reaching consequences. Additionally, karma could be embedded in feedback loops within AI systems to ensure accountability and the consideration of long-term societal impacts. AI models developed with these values would go beyond short-term goals, taking a more comprehensive, multi-dimensional approach to ethical decision-making.

Moreover, as AI continues to evolve, the challenge lies in adapting IKS values to new and emerging AI technologies such as generative models, autonomous vehicles, and AI in defense and security. These technologies bring new ethical dilemmas that require innovative frameworks for ensuring that AI systems are aligned with values of fairness, non-violence, and collective welfare. The development of AI models that prioritize these values can reduce the risks associated with AI misuse and ensure that AI technologies contribute positively to society, while also addressing global challenges like climate change, inequality, and political instability.

### **2. Cross-Cultural Adaptation of AI Ethics Frameworks**

One of the most critical challenges in integrating IKS into global AI systems is the need for cross-cultural adaptation. While IKS offers valuable insights into the ethical dimensions of AI, its principles are deeply embedded in Indian culture and philosophy. Future research must explore how to adapt these values for a global audience, ensuring that AI systems designed in one cultural context can work effectively across different cultural and ethical backgrounds. This could be particularly important as AI technologies continue to spread worldwide, impacting countries with diverse cultural values and societal structures.



The concept of cultural relativism in AI ethics needs to be explored further. Just as the Western frameworks have been adapted to suit the needs of different societies, IKS must be adapted to fit the complexities of a globalized world. While the core principles of IKS—such as non-violence, truth, and justice—are universally relevant, their application may vary depending on local contexts. Research into this area could lead to the development of cross-cultural guidelines and frameworks for AI, ensuring that AI technologies respect and align with local customs and ethical traditions while maintaining a universal standard of ethical responsibility.

Additionally, international collaborations between researchers from different cultural backgrounds are essential to create AI systems that reflect a global ethical consensus. Institutions and think tanks that bridge the gap between Eastern and Western philosophical traditions could facilitate the creation of AI ethics frameworks that combine the strengths of both traditions, resulting in AI systems that are both technologically advanced and ethically responsible. This could involve the creation of global ethics bodies dedicated to AI governance, similar to how international organizations like the United Nations shape global policy on human rights and environmental issues.

### **3. AI Ethics in Governance and Policy**

The role of AI in governance is expanding rapidly, with governments worldwide deploying AI for decision-making in areas such as social welfare, criminal justice, and public policy. Given the potential for AI systems to have a profound impact on citizens' lives, the ethical considerations surrounding AI governance are critical. IKS provides valuable insights into how governance models can be grounded in ethical principles that prioritize collective welfare, justice, and fairness. Future research should explore how these principles can be operationalized in AI-driven governance systems, particularly in areas where transparency, accountability, and justice are paramount.

In the future, AI-powered policy frameworks could draw upon IKS values to create more inclusive and just governance models. This could include the development of AI systems for welfare distribution, urban planning, and public health that are aligned with the principles of fairness and dharma. Policymakers could work with technologists to create AI-driven models that promote equitable distribution of resources and ensure that marginalized communities are not excluded from the benefits of AI systems. Furthermore, the concept of karma could play an essential role in holding AI-powered governments accountable for the long-term impacts of their policies.

Ethical AI governance will also require robust legal frameworks that ensure compliance with ethical standards. Governments can create regulations and policies that mandate the inclusion of cultural and ethical values—such as those found in IKS—into AI systems used for governance. This would ensure that AI technologies deployed in the public sector do not only focus on efficiency but also respect citizens' rights, promote transparency, and advance social justice. As



the use of AI in governance continues to grow, developing policies that incorporate IKS values could lead to a more ethical and equitable use of AI in government decision-making.

#### **4. Ethical AI in Business and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**

Businesses today are increasingly adopting AI systems to optimize operations, improve customer experiences, and maximize profits. However, there is growing concern that such AI-driven decisions may disregard ethical considerations, particularly in relation to the welfare of workers, the environment, and vulnerable communities. The principles of IKS, particularly ahimsa (non-violence) and karma (action and its consequences), offer valuable guidance on how businesses can integrate ethics into their AI systems.

Future research should investigate how AI technologies can be embedded in corporate social responsibility (CSR) practices to promote sustainability, fairness, and human well-being. The integration of IKS values could lead to AI systems that prioritize ethical decision-making in areas such as labor rights, environmental sustainability, and consumer protection. AI models in business could be designed to avoid harmful practices such as exploitation, discrimination, and resource depletion, ensuring that companies not only thrive economically but also contribute positively to society and the environment.

Moreover, as consumers increasingly demand ethical and sustainable business practices, integrating IKS values into AI-powered corporate strategies could give businesses a competitive edge. This could involve using AI to optimize supply chains for sustainability, minimize waste, and reduce carbon footprints, all while promoting fair labor practices and ensuring ethical consumer interactions. By aligning AI with IKS principles, businesses can contribute to the creation of a more just and sustainable global economy.

#### **5. AI and Global Sustainability Challenges**

The future of AI ethics also intersects with global challenges such as climate change, resource depletion, and inequality. IKS, with its emphasis on ahimsa and dharma, offers a framework for addressing these challenges in a way that promotes sustainability and collective responsibility. Future research should explore how AI systems can be developed to address these global issues while adhering to ethical principles rooted in IKS.

AI technologies can play a significant role in advancing sustainable practices, particularly in industries such as agriculture, energy, and transportation. By incorporating IKS values into these technologies, AI can help optimize resource use, reduce environmental impact, and create more equitable solutions to global problems. For example, AI systems designed to optimize energy consumption can be programmed to prioritize sustainability, reducing emissions and conserving resources. Additionally, AI can be used to address issues such as food security, poverty, and education, ensuring that these global challenges are approached from an ethical and culturally sensitive perspective.



In conclusion, the future scope of integrating IKS into AI ethics is vast and multidimensional. As AI technologies continue to evolve, there is a significant opportunity to develop ethical AI systems that prioritize societal welfare, sustainability, and long-term consequences. By drawing on the rich philosophical traditions of IKS, AI can be guided by values that promote justice, fairness, and collective responsibility. Future research, policy development, and cross-cultural collaborations will be essential to ensure that AI technologies contribute positively to society while respecting cultural values and advancing global sustainability goals. The continued exploration of IKS in AI ethics will be crucial for shaping a future where technology serves humanity and the planet in an ethical, inclusive, and sustainable manner.

## **Challenges**

While the integration of Indian Knowledge System (IKS) principles into AI ethics holds great promise, there are several challenges that must be addressed to fully realize its potential. These challenges span technological, cultural, institutional, and ethical domains, and overcoming them will require collaboration across disciplines, as well as a deep understanding of both the capabilities of AI and the core tenets of IKS. Below are some of the key challenges associated with this integration.

### **1. Technological and Algorithmic Complexity**

One of the foremost challenges in embedding IKS principles such as dharma, karma, ahimsa, and satya into AI systems lies in the inherent complexity of translating these abstract philosophical concepts into concrete algorithmic frameworks. AI systems, particularly machine learning models, require precise mathematical formulations and objective criteria for decision-making. However, IKS principles are deeply rooted in moral philosophy, which can be inherently subjective and context-dependent. For instance, the principle of dharma emphasizes righteousness, but what is considered "righteous" can vary significantly across cultures and situations. Operationalizing such dynamic concepts within AI models would require not only sophisticated algorithms but also extensive data to understand context and interpret values in diverse real-world scenarios.

Moreover, AI systems are often designed to optimize specific outcomes—such as efficiency or accuracy—rather than broader ethical goals. Incorporating values like fairness, non-violence, and justice into these systems necessitates a shift from pure optimization to ethical decision-making, which is a complex process. AI models would need to be trained to evaluate the ethical implications of their actions, ensuring that they align with IKS principles even in situations where such principles are not immediately quantifiable.

### **2. Cultural and Contextual Sensitivity**

While IKS provides an ethical framework that is particularly relevant to Indian society, its application globally raises concerns about cultural relativism. The challenge lies in adapting IKS principles for a global audience without diluting their cultural and philosophical integrity. Ethical



values that are important in one cultural context may not be universally applicable, or they may need to be modified to account for the social, political, and economic realities of different regions. For instance, the principle of ahimsa (non-violence) could be interpreted in varied ways depending on the cultural and historical context. Similarly, karma—which involves the long-term consequences of actions—might be understood differently in societies that prioritize short-term results.

Adapting IKS principles to diverse cultural contexts without losing their essence presents a major challenge. It requires careful calibration of AI systems to ensure that these technologies respect cultural diversity while remaining grounded in universal ethical values. This balance can be especially difficult in globalized systems where AI is deployed across multiple countries with different values and ethical norms.

### **3. Lack of Established Ethical Standards for AI in IKS**

Despite the profound ethical insights offered by IKS, there is a lack of well-established, widely recognized ethical standards specifically tailored for AI based on these principles. While Western ethical frameworks like those proposed by the IEEE and the European Union provide a basis for AI ethics, similar frameworks grounded in IKS have not been widely formalized or integrated into AI research. The absence of such structured guidelines for applying IKS in AI systems makes it difficult for developers and policymakers to implement and measure the ethical alignment of AI technologies based on these principles.

This gap in formal ethical standards creates a barrier to the practical application of IKS in AI development. To address this, future research would need to focus on establishing clear, actionable ethical guidelines and metrics that can be incorporated into AI development processes. Without such standards, there is a risk that IKS values might remain abstract and disconnected from practical AI applications, hindering their widespread adoption.

### **4. Political and Regulatory Challenges**

Another significant challenge lies in the political and regulatory landscape surrounding AI ethics. The regulation of AI technologies is still in its nascent stages, with many countries struggling to keep pace with the rapid development of these technologies. While Western nations like the United States and those in the European Union have begun developing AI governance frameworks, there is a lack of global consensus on what constitutes ethical AI. Different countries have different views on privacy, accountability, transparency, and the role of AI in society.

Incorporating IKS into these existing frameworks could be met with resistance, especially in regions where Western-centric values dominate the discourse around AI ethics. Governments and regulatory bodies may be reluctant to adopt ethical models that are seen as culturally specific, potentially creating barriers to the integration of IKS principles into global AI standards. Furthermore, AI regulation often focuses more on technical issues like data privacy and security





rather than on deeper ethical questions, making it difficult for IKS-based ethical guidelines to gain traction within existing regulatory structures.

### **5. Public Perception and Trust**

Building public trust in AI systems is another challenge, particularly when these systems are guided by cultural or philosophical principles that are not universally recognized. While IKS provides a rich ethical framework, many people, particularly those from non-Indian cultural backgrounds, may not be familiar with its concepts. This lack of familiarity could lead to skepticism about the ethical grounding of AI systems that incorporate IKS values. Additionally, there may be concerns about the potential misuse of these systems, especially if they are perceived as culturally biased or overly influenced by a particular philosophical tradition.

Overcoming these concerns will require effective communication and education about the benefits of integrating IKS values into AI systems. Public awareness campaigns and collaborative efforts between researchers, policymakers, and cultural leaders will be essential for demonstrating the relevance and importance of IKS principles in the context of global AI ethics. Public perception can also be shaped by transparent AI practices, where the ethical framework used to guide AI systems is clearly communicated and consistently applied.

### **6. Ethical Dilemmas in the Application of AI**

Finally, the application of AI in complex real-world scenarios will inevitably involve ethical dilemmas that may be difficult to resolve even with IKS principles. For instance, AI systems used in law enforcement or healthcare may have to make life-or-death decisions based on imperfect or incomplete data. In such cases, ethical principles like fairness and non-violence could conflict with the desire for efficient and accurate outcomes. For example, while IKS emphasizes the importance of ahimsa (non-violence), it may be challenging to balance this principle with the need for aggressive action in AI-driven medical interventions or emergency response systems.

Moreover, AI systems are often designed to maximize efficiency or performance, which could lead to trade-offs between ethical goals and functional objectives. Addressing these conflicts will require continuous dialogue and refinement of AI systems to ensure that they adhere to both technical and ethical standards. AI developers will need to engage in interdisciplinary research that involves ethicists, sociologists, and cultural theorists to navigate these ethical dilemmas and ensure that AI systems operate in alignment with broader societal goals.

While integrating Indian Knowledge System principles into AI ethics presents a promising avenue for more responsible, inclusive, and culturally sensitive AI systems, several challenges must be addressed. These include the technical complexity of embedding abstract philosophical values into AI algorithms, the need for cross-cultural adaptation of ethical frameworks, the lack of formalized IKS-based AI ethics standards, political resistance to new ethical models, and public skepticism. Overcoming these challenges will require continued interdisciplinary research, collaboration across cultural and institutional boundaries, and a global commitment to developing ethical AI



systems that prioritize the welfare of humanity and the planet. With the right strategies and frameworks, IKS can offer invaluable insights into the creation of more ethical and sustainable AI technologies.

### **Conclusion :**

In conclusion, this paper underscores the potential of integrating Indian Knowledge System (IKS) principles into computerized frameworks to promote ethical AI and sustainable economic practices. With core values such as Dharma, Karma, and Ahimsa, IKS offers a valuable foundation for addressing ethical challenges and fostering responsible economic growth. By aligning AI models and economic algorithms with traditional principles, digital systems can prioritize transparency, fairness, and community welfare, creating a balance between technology and ethical responsibility.

The proposed framework suggests that IKS principles are not only adaptable to modern AI and digital systems but also offer unique insights for ethical decision-making. By prioritizing societal and environmental welfare over individual gain, this approach provides a culturally attuned solution to the moral and economic challenges posed by modern technology. Through a comparative literature review, this paper demonstrates the feasibility of IKS integration in AI ethics and computational economics, establishing a basis for future interdisciplinary research that can further bridge traditional wisdom with technological innovation. This research serves as a guide for policymakers, technologists, and scholars aiming to create ethical, sustainable digital systems inspired by IKS, contributing to a future where technology aligns with cultural and societal values.

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