



## **Pura Vida Health & Wellness Centers Worldwide**

Dr. Ava Perez - *Foodologist* - NP MD PhD  
Ensenada | Baja California | Mexico | Costa Rica

### **ETYMOLOGY OF THE WORD VENOM (VEN-OM)**

Like many of you, we have been alerted to the very real possibility there is cobra venom in our water, vaccines, medicines and many of our foods. For many people especially in the Christian world this evokes feelings of suspicion, betrayal, mistrust, satan and downright evil. First and foremost, though I understand this sentiment, I also understand this “belief” originates from the interpretation of one word in Genesis and an alternative interpretation of this singular word has the ability to change the entire context and our understanding of a familiar story we have all heard over and over again.

For example, most of us are familiar with the story of Eve and the snake. The snake aka Satan tricks a naive Eve into eating the forbidden fruit and getting us all kicked out of Eden is the overly simplified story many of us are familiar with. As a result snakes have become associated with evil as the adversary of god i.e. the adversary of goodness, light and love. So, what if the word used in Genesis 3:1-20 meant something else when it was first recorded thousands of years ago? How would that change our understanding of and our relationship with such an iconic and culturally shaping tale that has influenced everything from our politics and religion to the way that we feel about ourselves as conscious sentient beings?

This ancient Hebrew word is “nhshtn” which is pronounced more like “nehushtan” when spoken. The etymology of this word goes back over 100,000 years to our original language, Vedic Sanskrit, and the word “naga.” A “naga” is someone very enlightened, wise, a leader, a physical embodiment of pure unconditional love, an avatar of god dedicated to teaching the path back to god represented with the iconography of snakes, serpents and dragons. Nagas are immortal healers with everlasting youth and vitality known as the guardians of wisdom and knowledge who guide us back to enlightenment through shared knowledge, wisdom and information. It has only been in the last 400 years we have rewritten our his-tory and begun to associate snakes, serpents and dragons with evil or satan or as the ultimate adversary of god.

For over hundreds of thousands of years we have made offerings and given presents to the nagas we meet who help us along our spiritual path as an expression of gratitude and humility. These gifts were often fresh fruits, vegetables, seeds, spices, beautiful textiles, tools, art, alcohol and eventually money. The intent is to offer a material gift of a “possession” you highly value to the naga(s) who help guide you back to god. This lesson in enlightenment brings us closer to being in the service of god as an exercise in relieving ourselves of the burden of physical possessions as they are a corporeal manifestation of our ego. God i.e. unconditional love is without ego. Our modern version of this exercise is putting money in the collection plate on Sundays or donating to Goodwill though it really doesn't feel like it has the same sentiment if I'm honest.

Anyway, in the time period in which Genesis 3:1-20 was written bronze coins were the most common currency and a frequent offering to gods and demi-gods in a time when their names and iconography were changing. In and around the Arabian peninsula the words “nagas” and “nehushtans” became common slang terms for gifting bronze coins to the



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serpent and by the time Genesis was recorded “nehushtan” was the most common word for MONEY. “Nhshtn or “nehushtan” equals MONEY making it one the oldest known words for money and organized currency. It is no wonder we have so many negative connotations regarding money when it has reduced our abundance for ALL to abundance for a few at the expense of the many. Like turning a necessary lesson in guiding us back to the light of god into depreciating our value, vilifying an entire classification of animals and brainwashing us into willing slaves to debt lords.

We have been manipulated and coerced into believing pieces of paper have value and today the pursuit of these pieces of paper have become our biggest obsession. We are caught in a cycle of believing we can never have enough and we are willing to abandon our morals for just a little bit more. Which is insane when you think about it and how much power we've given it over our lives. Because we can't eat money, we can't drink money, we can't breath or wear money, money can't protect our feet or hands from the hot or cold, money can't protect us from the elements, we can't grow money and we can't grow food on money. So, what VALUE exactly do all those *benjamins* rappers keep singing about actually have?

By just changing one word in Genesis 3:1-20 we have an entirely different story. MONEY tempted Adam and Eve, the pursuit of MONEY got them and their descendants kicked out of paradise and MONEY is the ONLY adversary of god. That means the only path back to god is rejecting the temptation of money and embracing abundance.

So, if snakes, serpents and dragons are wise guardians to help us back to the light of god, what's the deal with the cobra venom we're being poisoned with? Snake venom, spider venom, bee venom and scorpion venom have been used medicinally for thousands of years with a written history going back over 100,000 years. We continue to use these venoms in allopathic medicine today to treat a wide range of conditions from boosting your immunological library to erectile dysfunction to increasing fertility to decalcifying your pineal gland to treating cancer, HIV and other immunologically degenerative dis-eases to anti-aging treatments and products. In many parts of the realm even to this day being stung is considered lucky because god is providing you with the medicine you might not even know you need.

Which brings me back to cobra venom and all of the fear propaganda around it which gets me thinking... Do you know what the antidote for venom is? More venom. Yes, anti-venom is more venom from the same species of venom you were infected with. Yes, the antidote for venom is more venom. Yes, if you get bit by a rattlesnake or a cobra and go to the hospital or any health care professional they are going to give you more of the same venom. Every snake venom has its own unique neurotoxin fingerprint and those unique neurotoxins are neutralized by more of the same neurotoxins by breaking the fragile protein bonds the neurotoxins form. Isn't nature interesting...

Is cobra and other snake venom bad of us? If we're getting poisoned with snake venom could it actually be helping our health? The truth is, there are far too many variables to make such blanket statements. Snake venom can be and is used as part of medical and



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healing treatments and snake venom can also cause health problems. Where it is particularly worrisome is in the efficacy of medical treatment when the healer doesn't know their client has been poisoned with snake venom because the client doesn't know they've been poisoned with snake venom. For example: the common treatment for a failing respiratory response is to put the client on a ventilator which is really effective unless the failing respiratory response is due to cobra venom in which case their lungs will blow out.

Regardless of the medical implications, the word "venom" is quite interesting. Though most of us associate "venom" with poison or a potentially life-threatening situation, the word "venom" means *love wins* in Vedic Sanskrit. Then when we break down the word phonetically, we end up with the Vedic words "ven" and "om." The word "ven" means to take an action towards something you desire, and "om" is an F# referred to as the sound of creation or the hum of the universe.

In the only incorruptible language of Vedic Sanskrit, snakes, serpents, and dragons are teachers of enlightenment to guide us back to the light of God, and "venom" is part of that path to jolt us back into the NOW, reminding us *love wins*. For love to win, we have to take an action towards something we desire using the note of creation to manifest that desire. Words are interesting and powerful. Whether we use them as weapons or tools is our choice. Anyone want to help me manifest paradise?

*May your life be full of great joy with the health and abundance to enjoy it.*

*Dr. Ava Perez*