

Lecture 8 Distinguishing between the Needs of the Self and the Needs of the Body



Basic Human Aspiration

Continuous Happiness and Prosperity

Happiness is to be in Harmony

Program for Fulfilment of Human Aspiration

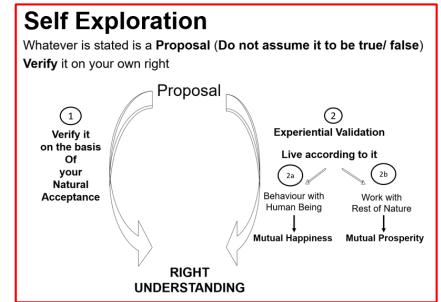
Understanding Harmony and Living in Harmony at all Levels

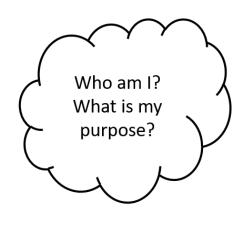


Harmony in the Human Being – Self and Body

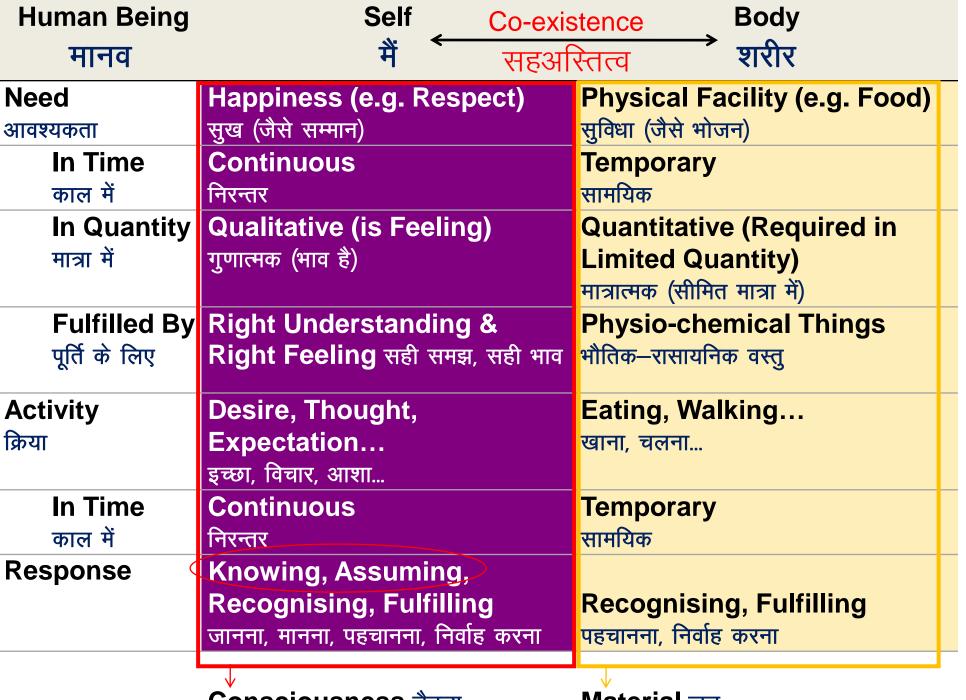
Harmony in the Family
Harmony in the Society
Harmony in Nature/Existence

Process of Understanding







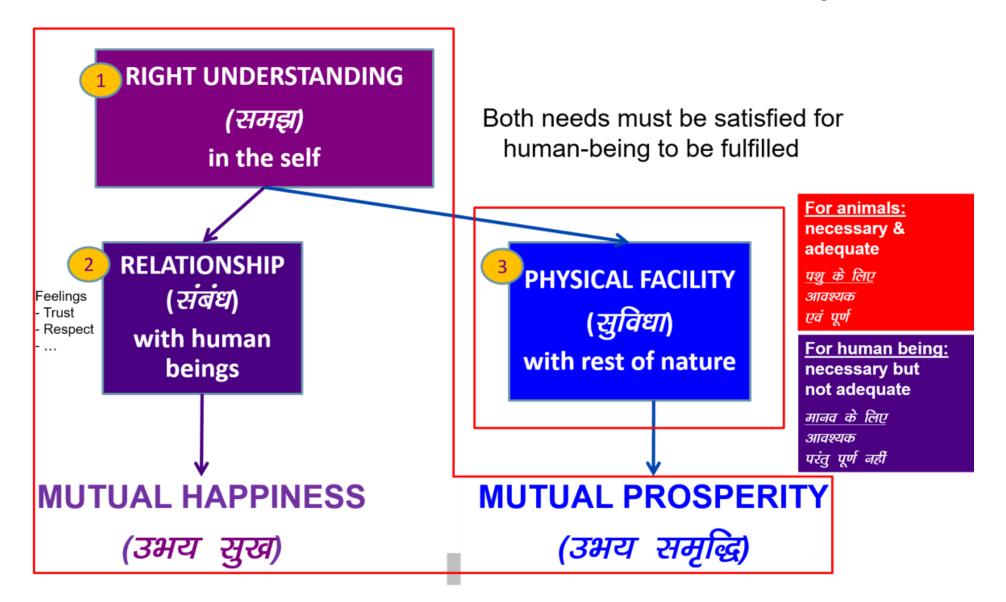


Consciousness चैतन्य

Material जड़

Related to Needs of the Self

Related to Needs of the Body





Consciousness

Need of the Self = Continuous happiness = Need of consciousness

Fulfilled by = Right Understanding and Right Feeling in the Self = Activities of consciousness

(can not be fulfilled by material)

(The need of consciousness is fulfilled by activities of consciousness)



Material

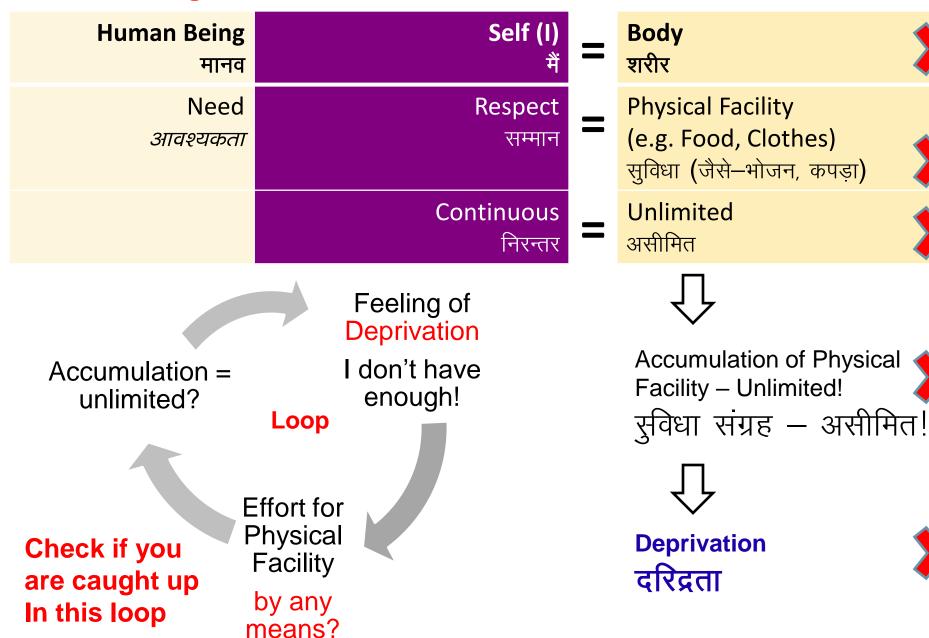
Need of the Body = Physical facility* = Material in nature

Fulfilled by = Physio-chemical things = Material in nature

(The need of material is fulfilled by material)

*physical facility is required for nurturing, protection and right utilization of the Body

Gross Misunderstanding



Sum Up

Human being is a co-existence of Self (consciousness) and Body (material)

The needs of the Self and the Body are of two different types, and they have to be fulfilled separately

The need of the Self is continuous happiness

The need of the Body is physical facility

The need of consciousness is fulfilled by activity of consciousness (it can not be fulfilled by material)

The needs of material is fulfilled by material

A gross misunderstanding is to assume the human being to be the Body (material), and to assume that all human needs can be fulfilled by material – this leads to deprivation, exploitation, etc





Self Reflection



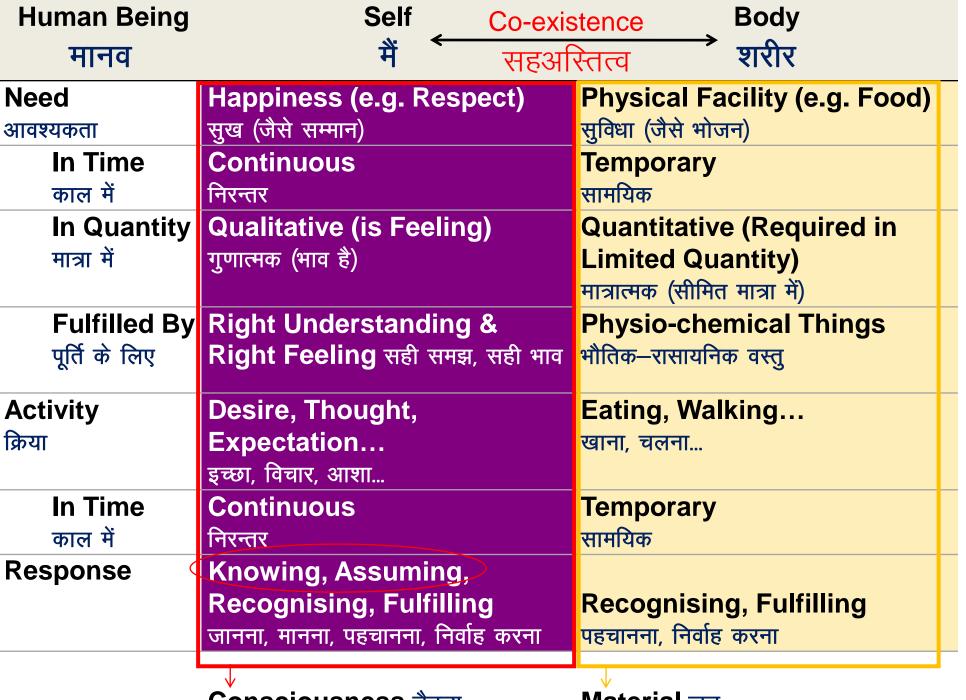




Key Points

Distinguishing between the Needs of the Self and the Body





Consciousness चैतन्य

Material जड़



Consciousness

Need of the Self = Continuous happiness = Need of consciousness

Fulfilled by = Right Understanding and Right Feeling in the Self = Activities of consciousness

(can not be fulfilled by material)

(The need of consciousness is fulfilled by activities of consciousness)



Material

Need of the Body

= Physical facility*

= Material in nature

Fulfilled by

= Physio-chemical things

= Material in nature

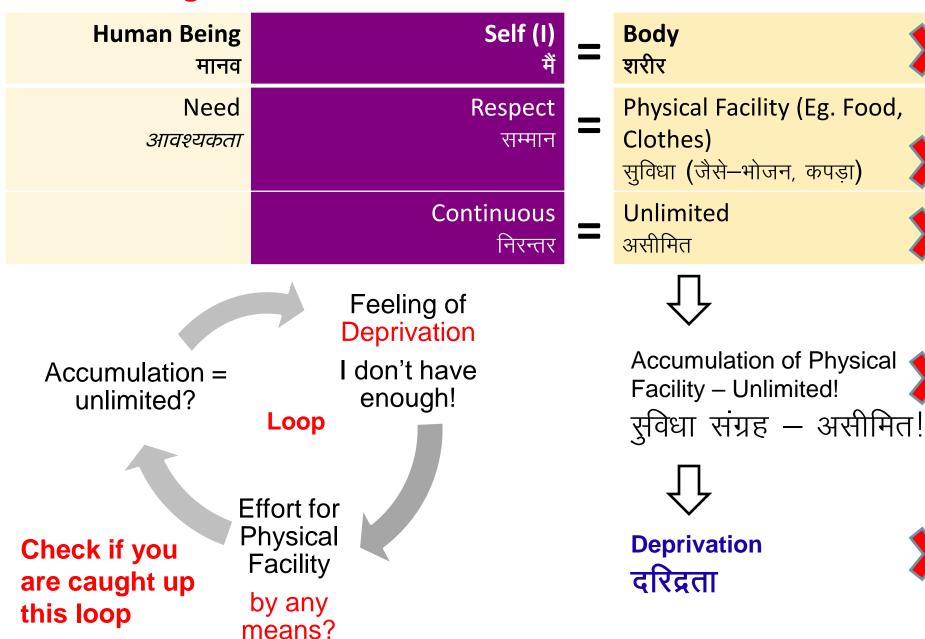
(material is definitely required, but guidance of consciousness is also

required)

(The need of material is fulfilled by material)

^{*}physical facility is required for nurturing, protection and right utilization of the body

Gross Misunderstanding





FAQs for Lecture 8

Distinguishing between the Needs of the Self and the Body



Question(s) 1: Needs of Self and Body

- Response
- Are we only talking about the basic needs of a human being here? What about the higher needs?
- •All the needs- of the self and of the body

- We need food and also the taste. So you are saying that only Self needs taste. Similarly, clothes are needed for the body but clothes which are trending or in fashion are needed for the Self. Isn't it? Why do we need to see this separately?
- •Because, they are of two different types, and they have to be fulfilled differently, e.g. need for clothes for protection of the body is required in limited quantity while need for clothes for getting respect becomes undefined.
- There can be many desires which are interconnected for Body and Self. E.g. Money. In that case how to distinguish whether the desire is for Body or Self?
- •Need of the self ultimately relates to the need of continuous happiness, whereas, need for body is related nurturing, protection and right utilisation of the body. Money is a man-made artefact, used for exchange of physical facility, relating to the need of the body.

Question(s) 1: Needs of Self and Body

Response

 We discussed Maslow's hierarchy of needs.
 By distinguishing needs of the Self and Body, how will it look? Need of the self is of higher priority, if we take care of the need of the self through right understanding and feeling, then it will the fulfillment of the need of the body very easy. What is feeling? Does it happen only in self or it also has an effect on the body as well? Feeling is basically my acceptance of relationship, affection for example. This is certainly in the self. It might reflect at the level of the body, if self sends some instruction to the body on the basis of it, consciously or un consciously.

What is right feeling?

• Feeling that is naturally acceptable to us is the right feeling.

• Can a feeling which is right for me, may be wrong for someone else?

No.

 Are you talking about spirituality? Or Are you trying to make us spiritual?

 We are trying to work for a system of education that makes us human. So, we are talking about humanness- what is being human.



• If this is spirituality, then our religious texts have answer to all such questions. Why not refer to them directly?

 Truth is eternal but, its expression is ever fresh. If we can understand the truth, we can see that it is there in the wisdom of the tradition as well. Then we can also see that the great man of this world have been essentially trying to express the truth in a manner which was suitable for that time, society and people. Everyone of us has to understand the truth through our selfinvestigation, through direct observation and then we can also see that these are expressed in the texts also. So, texts are veyy useful source for right kind of proposals about the truth, the reality.

- The exercise on list of desires was interesting. Most of my needs turned out to be needs of the Self and I was trying to address them using some physical facility.
 So now, I can understand the need for right understanding and right feeling within. What exactly should I do for developing this?
- This is what we are going to talk about all through the course- understanding of harmony at all levels of our being from individual, family, society, to nature/ existence. Once we have the understanding of harmony, we will have the feeling of harmony and that will also be detailed out.