

## Knowledge is Happiness

The basic need of the human being is happiness. This need for happiness cannot be separated from the human being. It is intrinsic to him. Just like the tendency to 'grow' cannot be separated from a plant, or the 'will to live' cannot be separated from an animal. Man seeks a 'resolution' -: within himself, with other humans and with nature at large. We call this internal state of harmony, of resolution as 'happiness'.

Existence is co-existence itself, is in harmony, in orderliness. At the root, this coexistence is in the form of 'units saturated in space'. A unit is defined as an activity. The fundamental 'unit' or 'activity' is an atom – which is the smallest basis for orderliness in existence. A collection of such atoms makes up larger things we live with everyday.

Such larger 'units' or 'activities' we see around us can be classified for our understanding as the following '4 natural-orders': humans, animals, plants and the material order. Each of these units, except the human, is in 'self-organization within themselves' and participate in the larger orderliness.

### Human-Human Relationship:

- As a result of not being in self-organization, the human is unable to fulfill his relationship with the other three natural-orders in nature (animals, plant and material).
  - *This manifests as the **ecological problem**.*

### Human-Nature Relationship:

- The human is also not able to fulfill his relationship with other humans in the knowledge order.
  - *This manifests as **economic problems, social problems, problems in relationships, in criminal mentality, war, exploitation, etc.***

### Within:

- The human is also unresolved within: has internal contradictions, a lack of clarity, self-doubt.
  - *This manifests as 'indefinite conduct' or 'indefinite behavior'. **The result is unhappiness within. This unhappiness within itself manifests as problems around: with other humans and the rest of nature.***

Today, while we seem to be largely certain regarding our conclusions about physical reality, there are dichotomies in questions related with our 'purpose of living', consciousness, the purpose of nature etc. Attempts to derive conclusions about human beings from our findings in the study of physical reality are incomplete and unsatisfactory.

***The result is a lack of direction, an existential crisis. This is the primary cause of our problems.***

**The human being is thus unresolved – within and without.**

The reason for the above issues is a lack of understanding of

- The 'Self' and
- Existence (*all that exists*) and
- Mans purpose and relationship with the units in existence. (Humane Conduct)

The state of the human race, of human society at any point of time is but a reflection of man's mentality and understanding (or lack thereof) in that time and space. Every human has the expectation for harmony, and *wants* to live in harmony. Every human has made some *assumptions* regarding the nature of this 'harmony' and the *way* to achieve it in his/her own manner. Hence, in order to understand 'harmony in society', we need to primarily understand human mentality and its basis, for which the study of the 'conscious aspect' of man becomes necessary. Only when there is harmony in the individual, will there be harmony in human-human relationships (from family to society to the nation to inter-nation); and only by understanding the relationship between humans and the rest of nature is balance and harmony with nature possible. This also means we need to understand the fundamental nature of humankind-of the human race in general and of the rest of nature ('material-order' or stones, water, etc; 'respiring-order' or plants, etc; and the 'animal-order') – since only on doing so is the understanding of the relationship between the human and these entities possible.

On studying existence and mans place in it, the human being has been found to belong to the 'knowledge order' because the need for 'knowledge' is a *fundamental* need in the human. The human being wants to live in orderliness, in harmony, in happiness. The need for *happiness-satisfaction* is only fulfilled by having *knowledge (right understanding)* while the need for '*physical things*' is fulfilled by *material goods*. While we have done a lot of work in the latter (physical goods) we have largely ignored the non-physical needs in the human like happiness, satisfaction, peace, etc, which are the needs of the Self ('conscious')

On having knowledge about the self, existence & humane conduct, the human becomes resolved, and this results in happiness. ***Having this knowledge fulfills the humans existential, intellectual, logical, ethical, moral, emotional and sense-organ related needs.*** He is able to be in harmony within and without. 'This is called happiness'. This harmony is already there in existence. One does not have to *create* it. One only needs to understand it to be in it.

Animals do not have this need to *understand, for knowledge*. Surviving is sufficient for them. I.e. they have a "will to live". The human has the "will to live, **with happiness**". To have this happiness, he needs knowledge. Animals 'are'. They do not have to learn how 'to be'. The human being 'is'. But he is not satisfied with just 'existing'. He has to understand '*how to be*'.

It is also seen that humans have the capacity of imagination and freedom of action. We 'act' based on our 'imagination'. What is the satisfaction point of imagination and freedom of action? How do we know that our imagination is correct? In that, it is based on the laws of existence and not on mere perception?

The 'satisfaction point' for our imaginative capabilities and freedom of action can only be had by knowledge. I.e. knowledge or 'right-understanding' provides ***the basis for our imagination, of our desires, of our conclusions on physical reality as well***, hence, knowledge is, provides, the **very basis** for our living.

Knowledge is thus the anchor for the human being, his innate, inalienable need. This knowledge is:

- **Knowledge (gyaan) of (darshan) realistic-view of Existence:** [अस्तित्व दर्शन ज्ञान]
  - Existence is Coexistence, nature saturated in all-expansive space. Nature manifested as the four 'natural-orders': knowledge order, animal order, bio order, material order. Nature = collection of units = physiochemical and conscious units.
- **Knowledge (gyaan) of Conscious unit (Jeevan, or Self):**[जीवन ज्ञान]
  - 10 activities in the Self (Conscious) and the 5 Potentials and 5 Forces.
- **Knowledge (gyaan) of complete-Humane Conduct:** (मानवीयता पूर्ण आचरण ज्ञान)
  - Living in human-human relationships and human-nature relationships. – values,character,ethics

Wisdom based on this knowledge is as: (*vivek*)

- Knowledge of 'laws of living': intellectual, social & natural laws. (*boudhik niyam, samajik niyam, prakritik niyam*)
- Identify the human-goal, the human target

Science based on this wisdom is as: (*vigyaan*)

- Knowledge of activity, time & decision making.
- Sets the direction for Human-Goals identified in Wisdom.

Responsibility and Source:

Written by: Shriram Narasimhan | Date: 01 January 2012 | Status: Student

Original Source in Hindi: Madhyasth Darshan, Sah-Astitva-Vaad by Shri A Nagraj