

WISDOM'S GOLDENROD, ALAN BERKOWITZ CLASS NOTES
(TYPED)
AUGUST 18, 1974
EPISTEMOLOGY; REFLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS

TOPIC: Epistemology

SUBJECT: Reflective Consciousness

SUBSUBJECTS: Karmic Impressions, Body Scheme, Perception, Observer, Three Levels of Heart, Brain, Vasanas, Image, Four Stages of Psychological Development, Nadis

BOOKS READ FROM OR REFERENCED:

- Georg Feuerstein and Jeanine Miller, *The Essence of Yoga: Essays on the Development of Yogic Philosophy from the Vedas to Modern Times*
- Michael Fordham, *The Objective Psyche*
- Sri Venkataramiah (Swami Ramanananda Saraswati), Recorder, *Talks with Sri Ramana Maharshi*
- Sir Charles Sherrington, *Man on His Nature*
- Paul Brunton, *The Wisdom of the Overself*
- Rene Guenon, *Man and His Becoming According to the Vedanta*
- Edward Whitmont, *The Symbolic Quest: Basic Concepts of Analytical Psychology*
- C.G. Jung, *Letters*
- Paul Brunton, *The Quest of the Overself*
- C.G. Jung, CW 5, *Symbols of Transformation*
- C.G. Jung, CW 6, *Psychological Types*
- C.G. Jung, CW 8, *The Structure and Dynamics of the Psyche*
- C.G. Jung, CW 10, *Civilization in Transition*, "The Undiscovered Self (Present and Future)"

DIAGRAMS embedded in these notes:

- FIGURE 1974 0818-1-AB. Yogic Scheme of Suffering and Liberation from Suffering.
- FIGURE 1974 0818-2. Yogic Scheme of Suffering and Liberation from Suffering. (scan from *The Essence of Yoga*, G. Feuerstein, J. Miller)
- FIGURE 1974 0818-3-AB. Cosmos as Thought.
- FIGURE 1974 0818-4-AB. Primal Image.

TYPED AND REFORMATTED by IT 2023

NOTES:

- **RETYPE HANDWRITTEN NOTES (hence V08).** From Alan Notes 5 PB Platonism Astrology 1974 MARCH TO 1977 FEB.PDF.

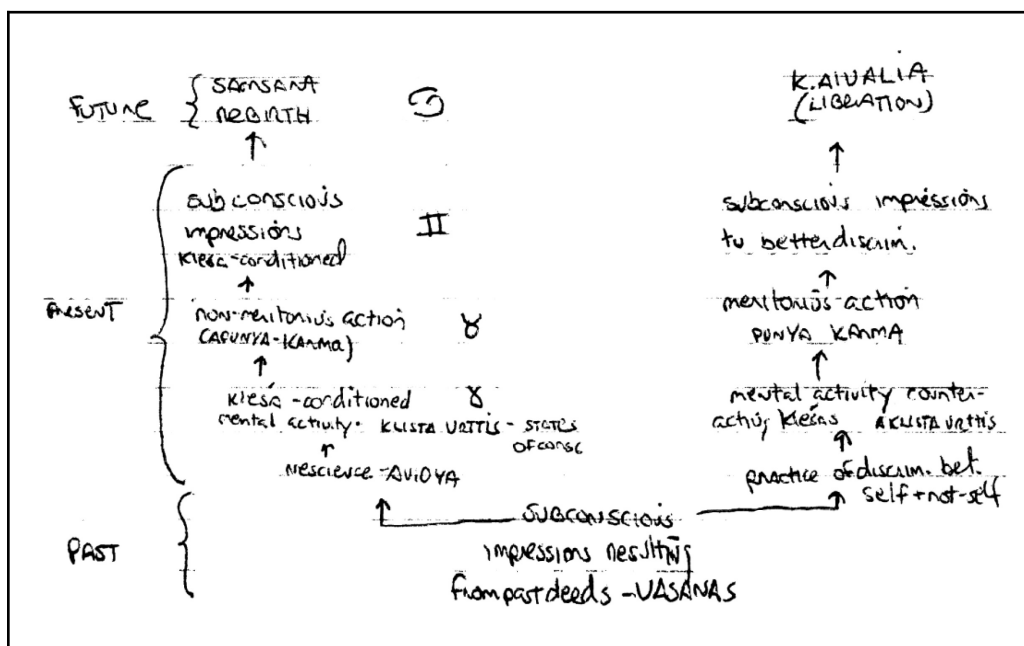
- Dating discrepancy between AB notes, dated 8/17/74, and Blue Book, dated 8/18/74. Using Blue Book date as the correct one until more information is available.
- All capitalization, punctuation, and other errors corrected, abbreviations spelled out.

1974 08/18 at Wisdom's Goldenrod Epistemology; Reflective Consciousness

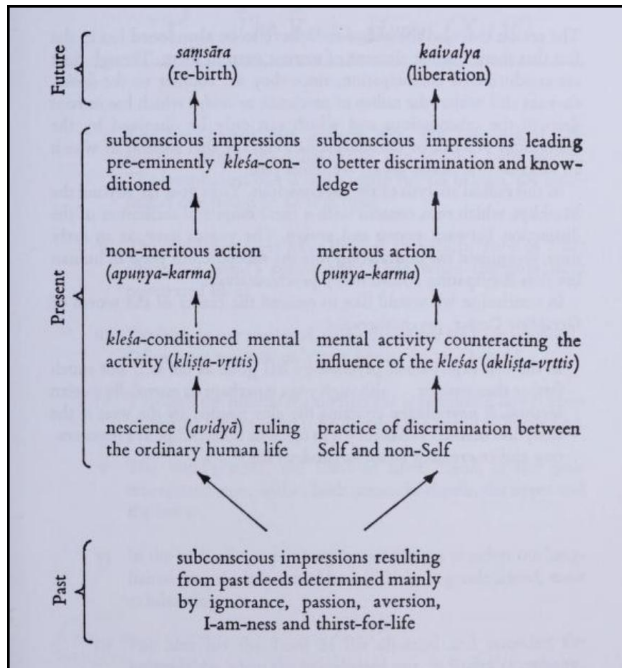
[Alan Notes 1974 0818 Begin] [Note: AB notes are dated 8/17/74, Blue Book shows as 8/18/74. Using Blue Book date as the correct one until more information is available.]

8/18/74 Karmic Impressions

Diagram from *Reappraisal of Yoga*. [Note: *The Essence of Yoga: Essays on the Development of Yogic Philosophy from the Vedas to Modern Times* by Georg Feuerstein and Jeanine Miller, Inner Traditions International, 1998, p. 93. Originally published in Great Britain as *A Reappraisal of Yoga* in 1971.]



[FIGURE 1974 0818-1-AB. Yogic Scheme of Suffering and Liberation from Suffering. Facsimile scan from AB class notes, adapted from *The Essence of Yoga: Essays on the Development of Yogic Philosophy from the Vedas to Modern Times* by Georg Feuerstein and Jeanine Miller, p. 93 (in 1998 edition).]



[FIGURE 1974 0818-2. Yogic Scheme of Suffering and Liberation from Suffering. Facsimile scan from *The Essence of Yoga: Essays on the Development of Yogic Philosophy from the Vedas to Modern Times* by Georg Feuerstein and Jeanine Miller, Inner Traditions International, 1998, p. 93.]

1) Fordham -- *Objective Psyche* quotes [Note: Michael Fordham, *The Objective Psyche*. JC notes add: Body scheme.]

2) Ramana -- *Talks* [Note: *Talks with Sri Ramana Maharshi*.]

3) *Man on His Nature* -- Sherrington -- Earth's Alchemy chapter [Note: Sir Charles Sherrington, *Man on His Nature*, Chapter X, "Earth's Alchemy".]

"Rise, abiding, and dissolution..." [Note: Paul Brunton, *The Wisdom of the Overself*, p. 39 in 2015 edition. "The rise, abiding, and dissolution of karma is indeed a twin function to that of its ideation."]

Causality -- final and mechanistic

Flow of images in psyche are substantial with a power driving them. Psyche is a closed system. Where do the images come from?

[Note: The following numbers correspond to numbered references directly above.]

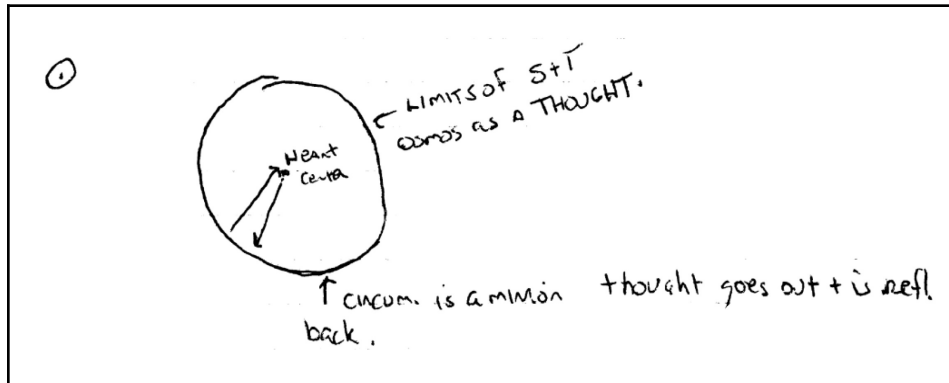
3) Act of perception is outside energy scheme. Modern science can reduce everything to energy except the act of observation itself.

Heisenberg uncertainly principle -- 'observer disturbs observation'.

Observer here is the subject (upadhis, physical) but not the *observing* (Witness-I) -- only its trace affects the observation.

Observation is no kind of energy phenomena. Its vehicle is what is involved.

2) 23rd to 28th January, 1939 -- nadis, heart center [Note: *Talks with Sri Ramana Maharshi*, Talk #616, page number varies with edition.]



[FIGURE 1974 0818-3-AB. Cosmos as Thought. S + T = Space and Time; Circum. = Circumference; Refl. = Reflected. Facsimile scan from AB class notes.]

Images are in body somewhere. All images in common sensorium.

Brain is physical counterpart of vasanas -- heart - subtle.

1) *Man and His Becoming* -- ethers in heart, p. 40 [Note: Rene Guenon, *Man and His Becoming According to the Vedanta*.]

2) *Symbolic Quest* -- 'objective psyche', 'libido' [Note: Edward Whitmont, *The Symbolic Quest: Basic Concepts of Analytical Psychology*. JC notes indicate: pp. 29-30, 41.]

3) Jung's *Letters* -- union of anima and shadow $\neq$ unio mystica [Note: C.G. Jung, *Letters*.]

PB -- heart transplant is black magic -- person is never the same -- heart that is transplanted gets a new body -- not reverse. Memories/brain consciousness are same, vasanas are new.

[Note: The following numbers correspond to numbered references directly above.]

1) Aspiration that draws self into manifesting other three hearts.

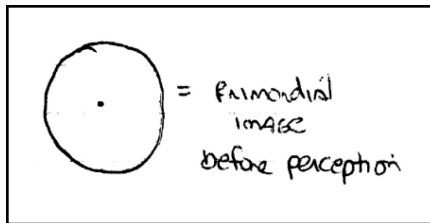
Ramana *always* speaks from the highest point of view.

1) Guenon

a) physical ether in heart -- a corporeal principle -- heart center experience(d) in *Quest of Overself* -- psychic being then comes in [Note: Paul Brunton, *The Quest of the Overself*.]

b) living soul -- jiv-atma

2) *Symbolic Quest*



[FIGURE 1974 0818-4-AB. Primal Image. Facsimile scan from AB class notes.]

States of Consciousness:

- 1) Uroboric -- heart center is not distinct from circumference -- unitary consciousness has no representation of itself.
- 2) De-integration -- [arrow here from level above to level below] -- breaking away of individual and image.
- 3) Magical -- same as yogi creating world through imagination, quality of consciousness is equal, power is different.
- 4) Myth

[1-4 are a] psychological perversion of Advaitic four states.

1→2 through sacrifice, speech occurs.

(Steiner -- sense of words -- 6)

Every sense (12 - Steiner) makes an image of its activity -- Jung. [Note: See C.G. Jung, CW 8, *The Structure and Dynamics of the Psyche*, "Spirit and Life".]

Symbols of Transformation -- two kinds of thinking [Note: C.G. Jung, CW 5, *Symbols of Transformation*, Part I, Chapter 2, "Two Kinds of Thinking".]

Anatole France -- meaning is built on images.

Steiner's higher stages are a re-ascent through levels, bringing with it all your past development.

Vasanas or memory are subtle -- beyond physical.

Etheric formative forces must proceed according to them.

Ramana -- vasanas are in heart.

Your hippie days are a result of your guilt for leaving the collective.

Jung -- definition of Image [Note: C.G. Jung, CW 6, *Psychological Types*, Chapter XI, "Definitions". JC notes indicate: paragraphs 749-750.]

Simone Weil -- French Jewess -- negative way.

paragraph 540 -- *Undiscovered Self* [Note: C.G. Jung, CW 10, *Civilization in Transition*, "The Undiscovered Self (Present and Future)".]

Vasana when manifesting goes through levels 1-4 -- ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny.

Magical = rational.

Myth = psychic.

Logos -- form-creating life -- word.

Fordham misunderstands St. John's dark night of soul and also misunderstands Jung.

Eddinger misunderstands.

(Yogis) -- mind is in nerves.

[Alan Notes 1974 0818 End]