

ASCENDING SERIES OF SUBSTANCE

The Life Divine -- Chapter 26

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Supermind's Integral Vision of Reality

- **Ultimate Reality is the Absolute -- a multidimensional Infinity**
- **Unity, Identity, Freedom are its secrets**
- **That reality is an infinite Oneness**
- **Its dynamic movement is from unity to multiplicity and back again – an infinitely variable Oneness**
- **Atma, Purusha, Iswara are three poises of that reality**
- **Transcendent, universal and individual are its three aspects**
- **The four above manifest as the four below**
- **Spirit and Matter are its two poles of expression**
- **Involution and Evolution are its grand movements**
- **The hidden principles press to emerge from below and press from above to manifest the Unmanifest**

Mind's View from the Ignorance

- **All is divided – lost in multiplicity, unconscious of oneness**
- **Infinite and finite appear as contradictions**
- **God, universe & individual are totally different and separate**
- **Spirit and Cosmos seem to be mutually exclusive**
- **The cosmos seems to have no purpose and no direction**
- **Either God is an illusion or world is an illusion**

Problem of Life

HUMAN LIFE IN A MATERIAL BODY	DIVINE LIFE
Unconscious and ignorant	Fully conscious and knows all
Divided from all	Feels oneness with all others
Subject to the external forces -- extremely limited in its power	All-powerful -- can accomplish anything
Subject to pain and suffering	Delight free from pain, suffering, limitation of any kind
Death of body is inevitable	Bodily life is immortal

The Solution

- **Go within from the divided surface to the psychic depths**
- **Move from the center of division to a center of integration**
- **There the individual can reunite with the universal & transcendent**
- **There Superconscient and Subconscient can be reunited in integral consciousness**
- **Release the hidden powers from within the lower principles by evolution of consciousness and substance to Supermind**
- **Invoke the descent of the hidden powers of supramental consciousness and substance from above to descend and transform the lower human life into Divine Life**

Characteristics of Material Substance

- **Gross**
- **Solidity and tangibility**
- **Impenetrable**
- **Resists change**
- **Fixed and rigid**
- **Unconscious or Inconscient energy**
- **Inert – helplessly subject to external forces**
- **Symbolized in Vedas as Earth**
- **Associated with the sense of touch**

Purpose of Matter

- **Last stage in cosmic progression from pure substance of spirit**
- **To manifest what is formless, shapeless, and evanescent**
- **Matter manifests FORM as durable gross image**
- **Culminating point of distinction, separation, division**
- **The formula of accomplished divisibility**

Ascending Series of Substance

FROM MATTER	TOWARD SPIRIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Durability of form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eternity of essence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impenetrability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interfusion• Power of interchange• Power of assimilation• Variation• Unification
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Persistent separation and resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infinity• Unity• Indivisibility

What is Substance?

- **Conscious Being experiencing itself as object is substance**
- **The formula of physical being represents a fixed relation between sense and substance**
- **Life, Mind and Supermind are represented by different formulas**
- **As is the Consciousness, so is the Force and the Substance**
- **The more subtle, the more powerful**

Formulas for Different Plans

	MATTER	LIFE	MIND	SUPERMIND
Being	Apparent Non-being Infinitely divided			
Consciousness	Inconscient Subconscient			
Force	Mechanical energy			
Substance	Substantial form & force Rigidity & Solidity, Fixed finite properties			

Formulas for Different Plans

	MATTER	LIFE	MIND	SUPERMIND
Being	Apparent Non-being Infinitely divided	Vital Being		
Consciousness	Inconscient Subconscient	Conscious Desire dominates		
Force	Mechanical energy	Cosmic vital Energy		
Substance	Substantial form & force Rigidity & Solidity, Fixed finite properties	Life Energy Increasingly subtle		

Formulas for Different Plans

	MATTER	LIFE	MIND	SUPERMIND
Being	Apparent Non-being Infinitely divided	Vital Being	Mental Being	
Consciousness	Inconscient Subconscient	Conscious Desire dominates	Mind dominates	
Force	Mechanical energy	Cosmic vital Energy	Cosmic Mental Will	
Substance	Substantial form & force Rigidity & Solidity, Fixed finite properties	Life Energy Increasingly subtle	Idea Flexible shapes imposed by Mind	

Formulas for Different Plans

	MATTER	LIFE	MIND	SUPERMIND
Being	Apparent Non-being Infinitely divided	Vital Being	Mental Being	Pure Being Infinite unity
Consciousness	Inconscient Subconscient	Conscious Desire dominates	Mind dominates	Truth- Consciousness
Force	Mechanical energy	Cosmic vital Energy	Cosmic Mental Will	All-powerful creative Will
Substance	Substantial form & force	Life Energy	Idea	Infinite qualities & properties
	Rigidity & Solidity, Fixed finite properties	Increasingly subtle	Flexible shapes imposed by Mind	Infinite Plasticity

Central message of Chapter 26

- **Matter and Spirit are two forms of one energy, one substance**
- **There is only one substance which is the pure Existent**
- **Substance is consciousness experiencing itself as object**
- **As the consciousness varies, so does the substance**
- **Substance takes on multiple expressions from Matter to Spirit**
- **Because they are one Existence, Matter can be transformed into Spirit or rather Spirit can fully express itself in Matter**
- **Through involution, the higher four principles have become and express in the lower, but are concealed behind the veil**
- **Through evolution, the higher principles can each express in the terms of the lower.**
- **Next Supermind must express in Mind, then in Life and then in Matter as Supramental Being which is the basis for Divine Life.**