

## LECTURE 19

# Understanding Harmony in Nature

*(For details, refer to Chapter 10 of the textbook)*

## Recap

We began our exploration with the basic human desire (aspiration) and the programme for the fulfilment of this desire. So far, we have been able to explore the harmony of the first three levels – in human being, the family and society.

In this lecture, we will explore the basic underlying design of nature. We will explore to see whether it is harmony or disharmony, order or chaos.

### 19.1 Nature as Collection of Units

Nature is the collection of all the units – the air, soil, water, plants, trees, animals, birds, other human beings and even things that are at a distant from us like the sun, the moon, the other planets, etc.

### 19.2 Classification of Units into Four Orders

Although the units are innumerable, they can all be classified into just four orders:

1. Physical order – this includes units like air, water, metal and so on.
2. Bio order – this includes grass, plants, trees, etc.
3. Animal order – this includes animals and birds.
4. Human order – this has human being only.

### 19.3 Harmony among the Four Orders

There is mutual fulfilment among the first three orders in nature. The soil-plant interaction is an example of mutual fulfilment between the physical order and the bio order. Animals and birds (units of the animal order) depend on plants (units of the bio order) for their food. At the same time, animals and birds help to spread the seeds of plants from one place to the other. They protect plants from harmful insects and pests. Similarly, the units of physical order, like air and water, are essential for animals to survive. In turn, animals enrich the soil – their dung and their dead bodies act as very good manure which makes the soil fertile. This is amply visible in the forests. These three orders are enriching for the human being too. This we can see from our day to day life.

Now, is the human being fulfilling for the other three orders? This is a big question. Human being is not only unfulfilling for the other three orders, rather it is dominating and exploiting them, to the extent of global warming and climate change.

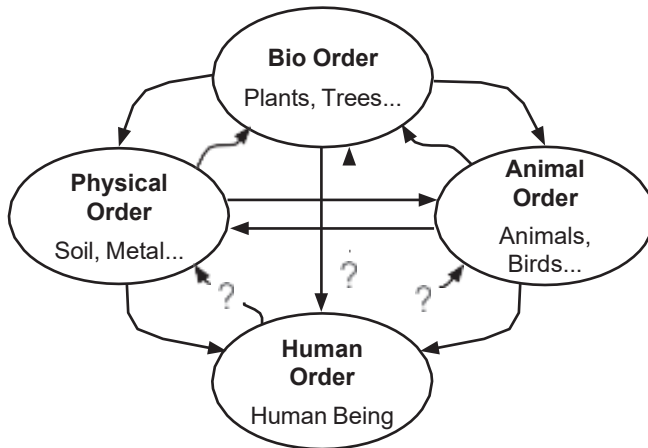


Fig. 19-1. Present State – Human Order is not Mutually Fulfilling

However, when we refer to our natural acceptance, we want to fulfil all the four orders. Ask yourself this question, “what is naturally acceptable to you – to enrich these four orders or to exploit them”? The answer is obvious – to enrich all the four orders. Once human beings understand the mutual fulfilment among the four orders, they can be fulfilling for all the orders.

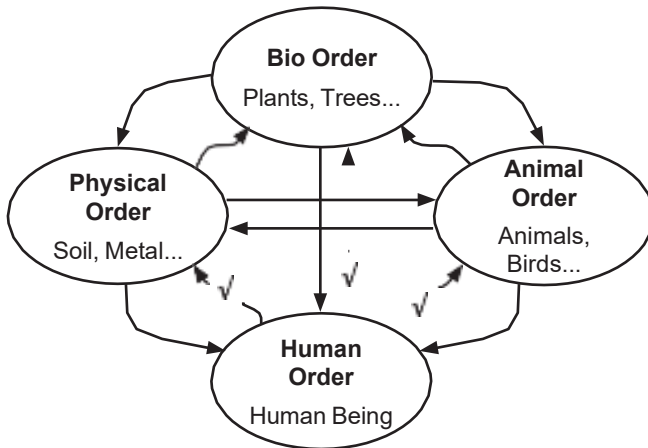


Fig. 19-2. Desired State – Human Order is also Mutually Fulfilling

## 19.4 Interconnectedness, Self-regulation and Mutual Fulfilment among the Four Orders of Nature

With the above discussion, we can conclude that there is interconnectedness and mutual fulfilment among the four orders in nature. One can also see that there is self-regulation in nature. In a forest, the proportion of soil, plants and animals of various species is self-regulated. It never happens that the lions eat up all the deer or the deer eat up all the grasses or that the plants grow to the extent that there is no space for deer or that there

is lack of soil for new plants and so on. The forest does not need to be regulated by human being to be in harmony. With right understanding only, human being will also be self-organised, in harmony within and participate in the harmony in the larger order.

## **19.5** Abundance in Nature

Nature is organised in such a manner that the physical facility required for any order is available in abundance. The quantity of soil is far more than that of plants and trees. And both of these are available in far greater quantities as compared to the quantity of animals and birds. Human beings require all these three orders to survive, and the quantity of all these three orders together is far more than the quantity of human beings. By its very being, nature is organised in a manner where quantity of all four orders is in a sequence:

Physical order >> Bio order >> Animal order >> Human order. Therefore, the requirement of any order is already available in abundance.

### **Key Takeaways**

Nature is the collection of units. It can be classified into four orders, (physical, bio, animal and human). There is a relationship of mutual fulfilment amongst these. It is already going on in the first three orders. Human being also has the natural acceptance for mutual fulfilment. All that we need to do is to understand it and live accordingly.

## LECTURE 20

# Interconnectedness, Self-regulation and Mutual Fulfilment among The Four Orders of Nature

*(For details, refer to Chapter 10 of the textbook)*

### Recap

In the previous lecture, we learnt about the four orders of nature and the mutual fulfilment among the four orders. Now we will study the four orders in detail and look into their interconnectedness.

### **20.1** Understanding the Four Orders

We have seen that units are interconnected and interdependent, in a relationship of mutual fulfilment. This is further elaborated in fig. 20-1.

Activity refers to the internal activity in the unit, based on its self-organisation.

Innateness is the definite self-organisation of a unit. By virtue of its definite self-organisation, the unit exhibits a definite conduct/property. The unit is also self-regulated. A unit and its innateness are inseparable.

Natural characteristic of a unit refers to its natural participation in the larger order.

Inheritance refers to the way by which the units ensure the continuity of their definite conduct, generation after generation. All orders, except human order exhibit definite conduct. In order to ensure definite human conduct, human education-sanskar is required.

| Four Orders    | Units             | Activity   | Innateness (Self-organisation)   | Natural Characteristic (Participation)                           | Inheritance              |
|----------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| Physical Order | Soil, Metal...    | Formation - Deformation  | Existence  | Composition- Decomposition                                       | Constitution based       |
| Bio Order      | Plants, Trees...  | " + Respiration  | " + Growth   | " + Nurture- Worsen  | Seed based               |
| Animal Order   | Animals, Birds... | "-, " in Body<br>Selecting-Tasting In the Self   | ", " in Body<br>Will to live in the Self   | ", " in body<br>Cruelty, Non-cruelty In the Self                 | Breed based              |
| Human Order    | Human Beings      | "-, " in Body<br>Imaging, Analysing- Comparing Selecting-Tasting in the Self<br>Potential for Contemplation, Understanding & Realisation in the Self | ", " in Body<br>Will to live with continuous happiness in the Self<br>Right Feeling & Thought in the Self<br>Right Understanding in the Self | ", " in body<br>Perseverance, Bravity, Generosity... in the Self | Education- Sanskar based |

Fig. 20-1. Details of Four Orders

## **20.2** Significance of Education-Sanskar for Human Order

Through human education and sanskar, we can ensure right understanding in us; this, in turn, will ensure the right feeling in us. With right understanding and right feeling in the Self, we will be able to ensure the continuity of harmony and happiness in ourselves and live accordingly. Then, we can be a source of human education-sanskar for the next generation. Once this cycle is complete, it can continue generation after generation.

## **20.3** Dependence of the Human Being on the Other Three Orders

One can see that the physical order can exist and sustain itself without any support from the other orders. The units of the bio order, however, are dependent on the units of the physical order for their existence. The units of the animal order, besides being dependent on the air and water of the physical order for their survival, are also dependent on the bio order for their food.

The human order is dependent on all of the other three orders for its existence and survival. If the human being does not ensure a relationship of mutual fulfilment with the other three orders, the human being is certainly going to face the negative consequences.

## **20.4** Mutually Fulfilling Interaction of Human Order in Nature

With this background, the role of human being when interacting with other human beings as well as with the rest of nature can be presented as:

- Facilitate a conducive environment for the activities of all the four orders in nature (or at least not violate them)
- Facilitate the innateness of all the four orders in nature (or at least not violate it)
- Participate with its natural characteristic and facilitate the natural characteristic of all the four orders in nature (or at least not violate it)
- Ensure the inheritance of all the four orders of nature (or at least not violate it)

## **20.5** Natural Outcome of the Understanding

All the orders in nature, have definite conduct except the human order (without the right understanding). The Self of the Human Being operating on the basis of assuming (without knowing) is the source of indefiniteness and the problems thereof; and its solution is to ensure knowing. With knowing, with right understanding, human beings can also have definite conduct.

## **20.6** My Participation (Value) in Nature

While interacting with any unit of nature, our participation (value) is ensuring mutual fulfilment by way of its right utilization in accordance with its natural characteristic so that it can continue with its innateness

and inheritance. Therefore, while interacting with the rest of nature, we have to ensure right utilisation, enrichment and protection. It results into prosperity for human being and preservation (protection and enrichment) of the rest of nature.

## **Key Takeaways**

The four orders in nature can be studied in detail on the basis of their activity, innateness, natural characteristic and inheritance. This helps us in clearly identifying our role (participation or value) in the entire nature.

## LECTURE 21

# Realizing Existence as Co-existence at All Levels

*(For details, refer to Chapter 11 of the textbook)*

### Recap

In the previous lecture on harmony in the nature, we saw that there are four orders in nature: physical, bio, animal and human. The first three orders are in harmony, are mutually fulfilling for each other and also fulfilling for human being. Human being also has natural acceptance for mutual fulfilment. But in order to ensure this, human being has to understand the harmony and to live in harmony – then harmony in the entire nature will be materialised.

In this lecture, we will explore into the harmony in existence.

### **21.1** Existence as Units in Space

*Existence is whatever exists.*

There are two types of basic realities in existence – one is space and the other is units. The units are in space.

### **21.2** Understanding Units and Space

There are innumerable units in existence. There is air, water, soil, earth, sun, moon, plants, trees, animals, birds, human beings etc. These units

are in space. The co-existence of the two is in the form of units submerged in space.

*Units are Limited in Size; Space is Unlimited*

We can observe units all around – they are limited in size. Coming to space, it is unlimited. It is spread all around. It is all-pervading. There is no limited size of space. It does not have any boundary.

*Units are Activity, they are Active; Space is “No-Activity”*

Every unit is an activity and it is active with other units. In itself, one or the other kind of activity is always taking place in the unit. Further, the unit is interacting with other units, i.e. it is active in relation to other units. When it comes to space, it is no-activity. There is activity only in the units.

### 21.3 Understanding Submergence

Units are in space – they are submerged in space. It means units are in space, they are inseparable from space. Where ever a unit is there, space is also there.

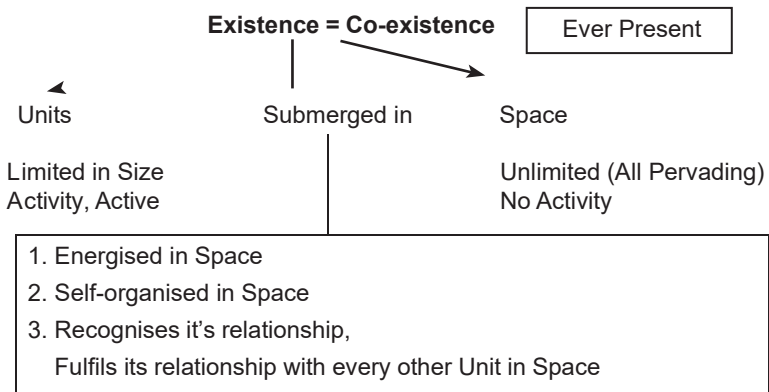


Fig. 21-1. Submergence

Submergence implies three things as mentioned in the Fig. 21-1

**1. Units are Energised in Space**

Being in co-existence with space, every unit is energised, right from the smallest atom to the largest planet.

**2. Units are Self-organised in Space**

Being in co-existence with space, every unit is self-organised. It is in a definite order. By being in a definite order, it exhibits a definite conduct – that is how one can identify or recognise and study that unit.

**3. Units Recognise their Relationship and Fulfil it with Every Other Unit in Space**

Being in co-existence with space, every unit recognises its relationship with every other unit in space and fulfils that relationship.

**21.4 Existence as Co-existence – Units Submerged in Space**

Existence is co-existence. It is in the form of units submerged in space. In the light of above discussion on existence as co-existence, we can now visualise the overall picture of the whole existence.

**Key Takeaways**

Existence is co-existence, which is in the form of units submerged in space. Units are energised, they are self-organised and they recognise their relationship with other units and participate with them in a mutually fulfilling manner (except for human beings without right understanding).

## LECTURE 22

# The Holistic Perception of Harmony in Existence

*(For details, refer to Chapter 11 of the textbook)*

### Recap

In the previous lecture, we explored about the existence as units and space; and tried to understand the whole existence as units submerged in space.

In the light of this discussion, we can now visualise the overall picture of the whole existence.

### **22.1** The Holistic Perception of Harmony in Existence

At the base of the whole existence is co-existence, which unfolds in terms of units submerged in space.

Units are limited in size; they are activity and are active. Space is unlimited, all-pervading and is no activity. Being submerged in space, units are energised, self-organised and recognise their relationship with every other unit in space and fulfil it.

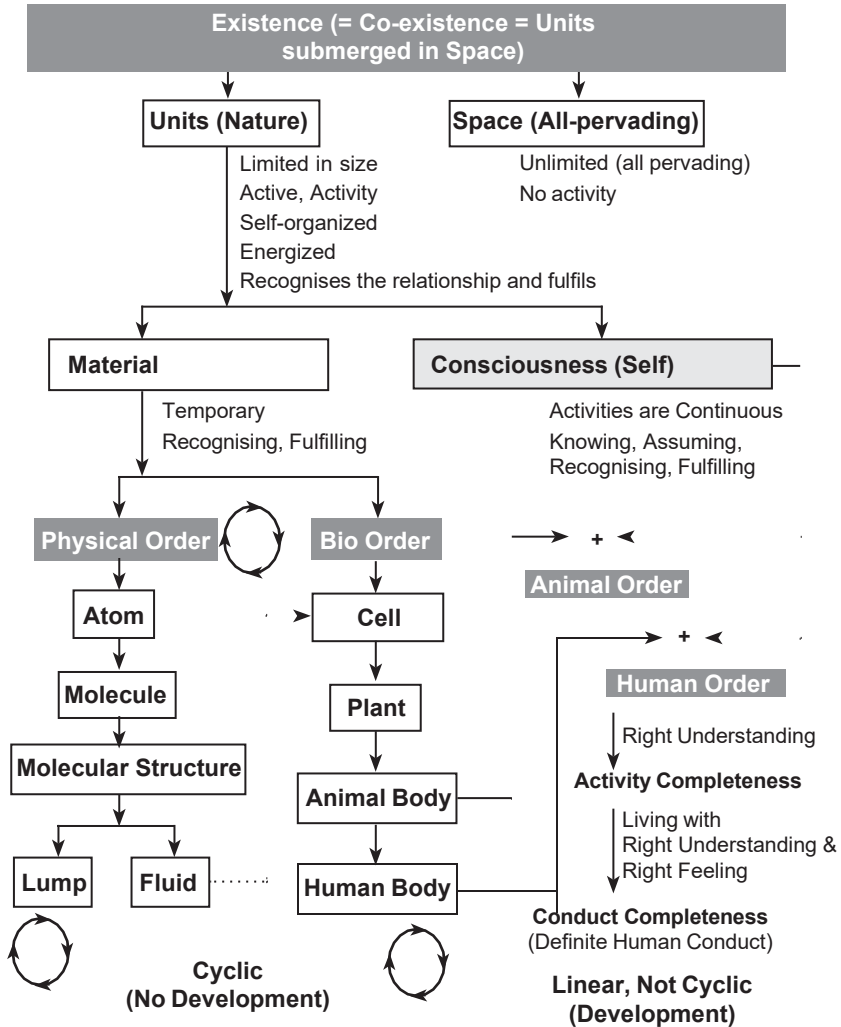


Fig. 22-1. Unfolding of Co-existence

Units are of two types – material units and consciousness units. Material units are temporary in time, while consciousness units (Self) are continuous. Material units recognise and fulfil their relationship with other units– their conduct is definite. Consciousness units recognise and fulfil their relationship on the basis of assuming without knowing or assuming based on knowing – the conduct of the human being is definite if it is operating on the basis of assuming based on knowing; and it is indefinite if it is operating on the basis of assuming without knowing.

All material units are composed of other (simpler) material units. The smallest or fundamental stable material unit is the atom. An atom may combine with another atom to form a molecule. These molecules further combine to form molecular structure. Molecular structures can exist either as lumps, or fluids. Fluids provide nurturing of cells and such cells combine to form plants, the animal body and the human body.

Coming to the domain of consciousness, there is just one type of unit which we have referred to as the Self. We can classify all the units in existence into four orders. Material units can be classified into two orders – physical order and bio order. The animal order is the co-existence of consciousness (Self) and the animal body (material). The human order is also the co-existence of consciousness (Self) and the human body (material).

## **22.2** Development in the Existential Sense

Now, we can see that everything is in co-existence. Everything that exists is basically the expression of this ever-present co-existence. It is expressing itself in the form of harmony and relationship. This unfolding is something which is happening and has to be completed through human being.

Whatever we do with the material world is cyclic. It will keep changing; keep going back to initial state, no matter what we do. In that sense, there is no development here. Only in the human order, there is a potential for

development or transformation in the Self which is not cyclic. Development or permanent change is possible only in the domain of consciousness. It is in terms of

1. developing right understanding (understanding co-existence) and right feeling (feeling of co-existence) in the Self. It means awakening to the activities of contemplation (of relationship, participation in the larger order), understanding (of self-organisation, harmony) and realisation (of co-existence), as discussed earlier, and
2. living on the basis of right understanding and right feeling- part one is updating all our desires, thoughts and expectations in line with right understanding and right feeling; part two is the expression in the form of behaviour, work and participation in the larger order.

This development, this transformation in human being is facilitated by education-sanskar. There is every provision in existence for this development.

### **22.3 Expression of Co-existence at Different Levels**

With this background, we can see that all that we discussed about harmony at the level of individual, family, society and nature are basically the systematic reflection (the expressions) of existence as co-existence. The same is shown in figure 22-1. The whole discussion so far can be summed up in a simple chart given below. It can be expressed in one word – '**Co-existence**'.

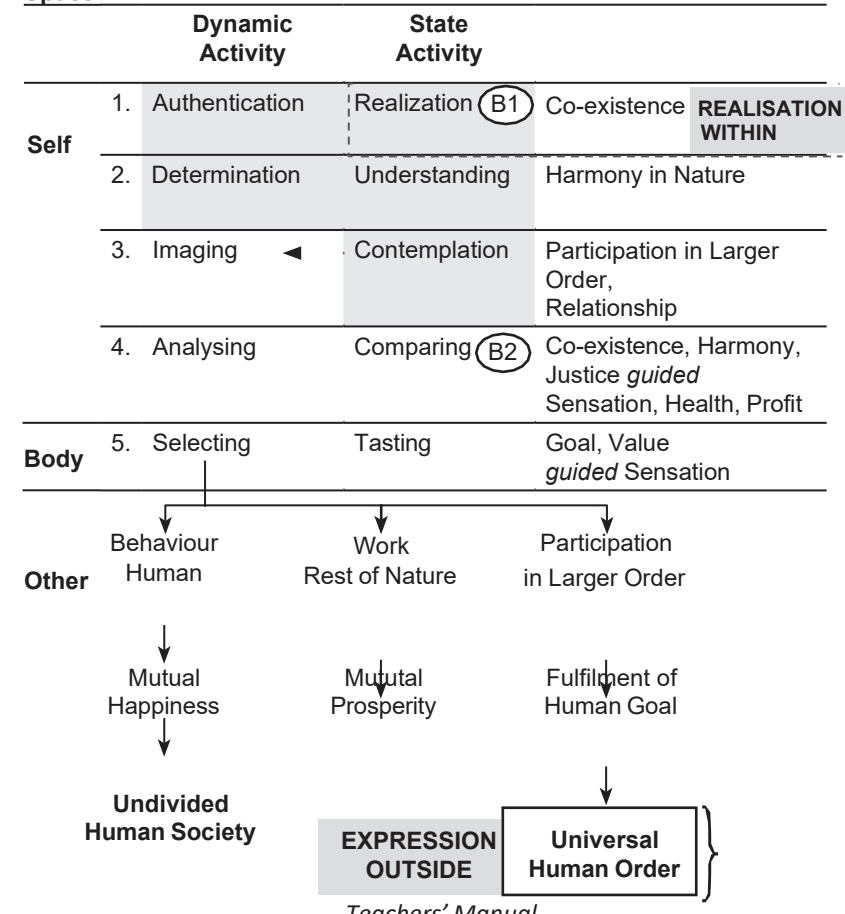
| Level Name                 | Relationship  | Details   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| 4b. Existence              | Co-existence  | Units submerged in Space (energised, self-organised, recognising and fulfilling relationship)                       |
| 4a. Nature                 | Mutual Fulfilment   | 4 orders  |
| 3. Society                 | Right Understanding and Right Feeling, Prosperity, Fearlessness (Trust), Co-existence | Human-Nature relationship<br>Natural laws<br>Universal Human Order<br>Human Tradition                               |
| 2. Family                  | Feeling of co-existence<br>Trust, Respect... Love                                     | Human-Human relationship<br>Justice<br>Undivided Society  |
| 1b. Individual Human Being | Co-existence of Self(I) and Body  | Self-Body relationship  |
| 1a. Self (I)               | Continuous Happiness (happiness, peace, satisfaction, bliss)                          | Realisation of co-existence, → Feeling and thought of co-existence → co-existential behaviour, work & participation |

## 22.4 Understanding Role of Human Being in Existence

Human being has a definite participation in existence. It is to complete the process of development through itself. All that human being needs to do is to understand the co-existence and to live in co-existence. By understanding co-existence, we are referring to the Self-awakening to the activities of contemplation, understanding and realisation (labelled as block B1 in fig. 22-2). This clarity now guides our desire and thus, all the activities of imagination, i.e. desire, thought and expectation (labelled as block B2 in the diagram below). The right feeling and right thought now become the basis for our behaviour with other human being, work with the rest of the nature and participation in the larger order. Expansion of

such behaviour from family to world family leads to undivided society. The work based on natural laws with the rest of nature results into mutual prosperity. The participation in the larger order, in the entire nature results into fulfilment of human goal. Expansion of such work and participation in the larger order, from family order to world family order leads to universal human order.

**Space**



*Fig. 22-2. Role of Human Being*

The continuity of universal human order generation after generation is called human tradition. That is what we all aspire for. All this is facilitated by human education-sanskar.

## **22.5 Natural Outcome of the Understanding**

The completion point for human being (materialising universal human order) is also the completion point of the universal order in existence. In that sense, the universal human order and universal order are synonymous. This is also the total expression of existence. It is the completion point of unfolding of the existence as co-existence.

**Thus, My Participation (Value) in Existence is to Realise the Co-existence and Live in Co-existence.**

### **Key Takeaways**

Existence is co-existence, and the role of human being is to realise co-existence in the Self and live in co-existence in nature/existence, extending up to universal human order. In this way, the unfolding of the co-existence will be completed through human being – resulting into universal order.