

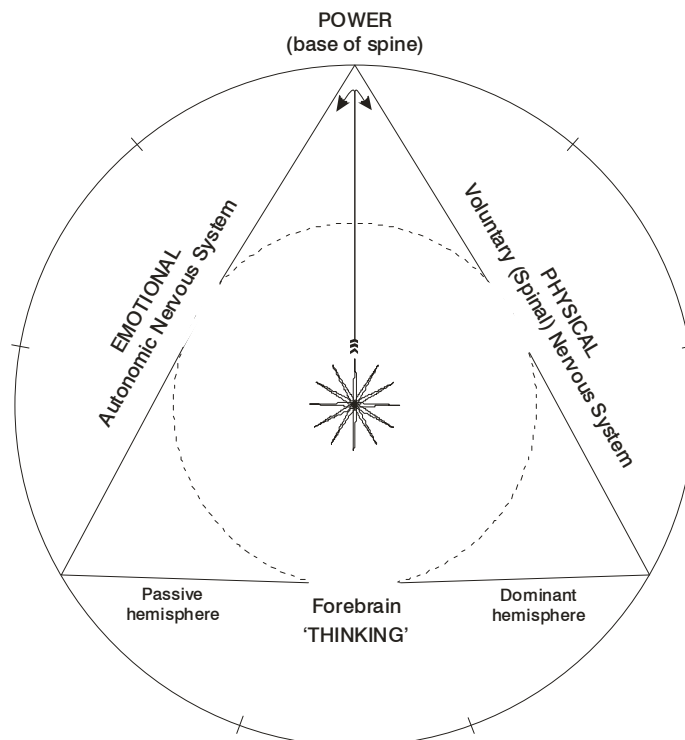
MIND 2

The mind presents the world we know. This is the mind in the sense of a screen which displays all the perceptions and impressions that constitute 'life'. Yet the mind itself, the means of perception, by its very construction and limitations determines the world that is experienced. All experience is thus fundamentally subjective—time, space, causation, all these are properties of the mind, not how things really are. Only the simple feeling of 'I', when unqualified by any perception of 'I am this' or 'I am that' can lead to an objective understanding of what really is—the Truth.

It is suggested that Consciousness, the source of light which alone makes possible all the images on the screen, is the source of this unqualified feeling of 'I'. By learning to remain with this simple feeling of 'I' we begin to observe all the things that we are not—an essential process if we wish to know what we really are.

Another form of the last diagram in the previous paper puts this simply. There are three basic constituents of the nervous system which provides all our experience. The spinal nervous system which controls all voluntary action; the autonomic nervous system which controls all involuntary and instinctive processes; and the frontal cortex or 'forebrain' where we can 'consciously' think or know.

Everything within the outer circle is our subjective experience and with this we create the world which lies outside the circle. Of the centre, and the inner circle, the source of the light which creates the whole show, we know nothing at all.



It would be entirely valid to point out that all this too is just another creation of the mind. And yet, although imprisoned, there exists the possibility to fashion a key which will open a door to quite another world. Others before us have succeeded in this enterprise and their lead we follow. A story sums it up:

Three men spent a lifetime trying to climb laboriously a wall.

And when at last they succeeded, the first man laughed so much that he never came back. He jumped down and disappeared for keeps.

The second man laughed inordinately. He laughed so much that he fell down on the wrong side of the wall and suffered multiple injuries.

But the third man laughed in a good-natured kind of way and came back to help his friends.

But there is no wall! That's what everyone was laughing at. There is no wall at all.

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