Indian Philosophy

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Lecture - 01

Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers

1. Explain the concept 'ignorance'.

Ans.: 'Ignorance' implies not having the proper or correct knowledge about an object, or an event, or a state of affairs of the world. Due to ignorance we the human beings passionately attach to different objects differently for our different purposes. But the eternal truth is everything includes animate and inanimate objects fall in the cycle of birth, growth, and decay. Thus, we should be contained with what we are rather than cravings for many more things. Not understanding this principle causes individuals to suffer. Thus the root cause of ignorance is the bondage.

2. What is spiritual dissatisfaction?

Ans.: Although Chārvākas, Buddha and Jainas do not prescribe the spiritual activities as āstikas do but certainly they aim at for optimistic approach and removal of pessimism. In majority of cases, it is noticed that they move towards happiness of life.

3. Briefly explain 'intellectualism'.

Ans.: All systems seek truth in their own way without having any biases and prejudices notions about others. In some occasions, one system repudiates others' theories through rational and logical arguments, and also gets defended by other schools.

4. Name the Indian Philosophical Schools those come under the orthodox system.

Ans.: The Yoga, The Nyāya, The Vaisesika, The Sānkhya, The Purva-Mimānsā, and The Uttar-Mimānsā.