

Indian Philosophy

Author: Dr. Satya Sundar Sethy, HSS, IIT Madras, Chennai-600036

Lecture - 16

Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers

1. What does it mean by 'presentative cognition'?

Ans.: The expression 'presentative cognition' implies when a cogniser cognizes the object, it is presented before him/her. The valid presentative knowledge is known as *pramā* and invalid presentative knowledge is known as *apramā*.

2. Explain the concept 'error' in a few sentences.

Ans.: Error is contrary to the valid knowledge. In this case, an object is cognized as having certain characteristics those actually fall outside of its being. It is a wrong apprehension in which the object is taken for what it is not. In error, the content of cognition is misplaced.

3. What is 'tarka'?

Ans.: Tarka is a type of implicative argument, which is used to test the validity of the conclusion of an argument. We ask whether any contradiction would follow if the given conclusion is accepted as true or rejected as false. If we find any contradiction by accepting the conclusion as true, then the argument is invalid. If we reject the conclusion as false and found contradiction, then the argument must have been valid.

4. Are dreams considered as true memory cognition?

Ans.: Dreams are considered as memory cognition but it is not a true memory cognition. It is a false memory cognition. In the state of dream, we experience about something but often we don't recollect those events in a sequentially or systematic manner. Thus, on the account of Nyaya Philosophy, dreams are intrinsically false memory cognition.