Indian Philosophy

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Lecture - 04

Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers

1. Explain the roles of middle term in an inferential argument.

Ans.: The middle term is familiarized as 'linga' or 'hetu'. It appears two times in an inferential argument. First, it is with the major term in the major premise and second, with the minor term in the minor premise. Thus, it assists to establish the link between major premise and minor premise, as a result we can able to draw the conclusion.

2. What is Vyāpti?

Ans.: Vyāpti is an invariable, universal, unconditional, and concomitant relation between major term (sādhya) and middle term (linga). It is found in the inferential arguments. Without Vyāpti, inferential knowledge will not be considered as valid.

3. Briefly write about purusārthas.

Ans.: There are four purusārthas mentioned by Chārvākas. These are, kāma, artha, dharma, and moksha. Out of these they primarily focus on kāma and artha. The remaining purusārthas are treated as secondary.