

WITNESS CONSCIOUSNESS

The idea of the Witness or witness-consciousness is found in PB and in various forms in many other traditions.

Witness or witnessing or witness consciousness is a function of the Overself. It is both an experience and a metaphysical pointer to our deeper nature.

As an experience as well as concept it is intermediary between the finite personal ego-self and the universal Overself. It points to our nature beyond ego, and to the function of Overself described by PB in 22.3.386 and 390... and unit of life.

It is a state of consciousness, a shift from the local limited finite person to a recognition of being the non-object Witness Consciousness or Awareness of that finite person and the world.

As an experience, Witnessing is to be recognized as the ever-present awareness or consciousness of the contents of experience—both inner and outer—right now.

As experience, it is not the final realization, which goes beyond or is more inclusive than Witnessing.

Metaphorically it is like waking up in a dream and realizing you are dreaming... or better, that you are the dreamer-mind—but not yet recognizing that you are the creator too.

As a description of the intermediary, it is related to the metaphysical/cosmological idea of the unit of life, unit of mind, or unit soul, jivatma: an individual ray of Overself.

As our deeper nature, it is not the ultimate Overself in itself, but it is an intermediary, or rather Witness is what it says: the functionality of the Overself, of Awareness, as revealing and manifesting the contents of experience. It is the ray of consciousness appearing in and through the burning center of experience, the psyche, or “organized body.

Imagine the divine sun as Overself/World-Mind, the raying out as present in all the local centers of experience, and lighting up all the contents in and through individual centers of experience as the witness-consciousness, and the appropriated identity as an ego to be the person. ”

Witness or life-to-life consciousness, unit of life, unit soul... all refer to the same thing. Overself per-se is eternal and does not per-se incarnate, and the ego dissolves every moment... so what is the life-to-life continuum or continuation? This we can point to by Witness-consciousness.