

A Mystery of ‘Consciousness’ & Dualism Solved!

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Abstract:- Life, Death, Consciousness and Mind in reference to human body have been a mystery to mankind forever. This paper solves all those by discovering an element responsible for these mysteries!

- *Life and Death:-* Some believes death of brain as death, some relate it to heart or breathing. This paper defines death all different from these. This paper proves an element responsible for life, absence of this element is death and presence is life! It will astonish the Medical Science and the world of Doctors to change their belief about life and death. This might change some research field’s agenda to turn 180 degree and start discovering the facts in a very new direction!
- *Consciousness:-*Philosophy of mind scholars believes consciousness responsible for life, but they are failed to provide even an acceptable definition of ‘Consciousness’. Neuroscience holds brain responsible for thinking, learning, feelings, memory etc.. This paper proves that brain plays a secondary role but there is another substance which plays key role in preserving memory and responsible for feelings, learning and thinking. This substance receives perceptions through brain and other sensory organs, and keeps them in its memory even up to next births.

This paper solves the “Hard Problem of Consciousness” and “Mind Body Problem”.

Some world renowned great icons had said:

- “The consciousness of self is the greatest hindrance to the proper execution of all physical action.” - Bruce Lee
- In 1990 **Francis Crick**, the joint discoverer of the double helix, declared, “because most workers in these areas cannot see any useful way of approaching the problem”.
- David Chalmer told in 2015 conference at Moscow, “I think in next 100 years neuroscience won’t be able to understand consciousness!”

Some great thinkers and philosophers had mistaken consciousness to behaviour (Behaviorism), some to brain state and some to identity state!

What happens if we start a journey of 100 thousand miles without any direction? Without Google map or sign boards? After wandering so much it will naturally put us nowhere. It will be a waste of time and efforts resulting into frustration! Due to lack of anyone’s empirical experience of consciousness, journey to find consciousness in body happened like that!

But here I am very glad to declare that I found complete empirical perception of these mysteries in a book “Vachnamrutam”. The book is a compilation of debates related to

much about these mysteries. In this book, main character “ShrijiMaharaj” unleashes His complete empirical experiences of consciousness - Body, Mind and the Soul. I think this might be for the first time, we have empirical ground for these mysteries. ShrijiMaharaj could see Mind, Soul and consciousness as it is!

He had answered to various typical questions regarding these mysteries in book “Vachnamrutam”.

It had also discussed how Soul, Mind and Body interacts with one another in detail.

So, when I put together,

1. Philosophical inquiries related to said mysteries
2. Modern scientific discoveries (Reincarnation & NDE)
3. Empirical Experiences of ShrijiMaharaj

Then it unfolded and solved the puzzles and mysteries very easily before the world.

Keywords:- *Consciousness, Philosophy of Mind, Dualism, Mind-Body Problem.*

I. INTRODUCTION

I finished my engineering in computer science in 1993. For 7 years I engaged myself with software business. Those days every morning I used to read a book “Vachnamrutam” on philosophical concepts like consciousness, mind, body and soul etc. I was very much impressed with the clear explanations on these mysteries. I kept studying it repeatedly. In 2001 I wind up my entire software business and devoted myself to HDH Pramukh Swami Maharaj (Former Spiritual Leader and Head, BAPS Swaminarayan) full fledge to understand the secrets within the body and universe. For 2 years from 2003 to 2005 I studied and understood the book “Vachnamrutam” exclusively under guidance of P. Brahmdarshan Swami (No. 1 scholar on this book) and other teachers on this book. From 2005 I used to study Veda, Upanishdas, Ramayan, Bhagwat, World Religions till 2009. Along with studies, to understand and grasp more knowledge about these mysteries, serious spiritual practice was necessary. So I did those as well.

In 2014 I started masters in Philosophy. I was learning world philosophies and religions. In 3rd semester I was very much excited while I came across the challenging philosophical problem “Mind-Body Problem” and mystery of “Consciousness”. My excitement was for the solutions I recalled from the book “Vachnamrutam”.

I came across the fact that from 20th century philosophical talk about Mind-Body Problem was cooling down. Because there was no one to who had empirical experience of Mind/Soul.

The fun was people were trying to solve the puzzle of consciousness and mind-body problem without any perception of it! I was delighted as ‘ShrijiMaharaj’, the prime orator of the book “Vachnamrutam”, had talked about consciousness based on His own perceptual and empirical experiences of consciousness. He was the one who had real perceptions of mind/soul. He didn’t guess or derived it after hypothesis, but He talked about it very confidently and precisely based on His real experiences. We will know about ShrijiMaharaj’s perceptions and experiences about consciousness in section “ShrijiMaharaj’s *Exclusive 100% experiences of consciousness*”.

Then comes the section “Vachnamrutam.” There we will list some exclusive and exciting facts on Mind-Body problem and Consciousness.

Thereafter in section “Modern Discoveries – Reincarnation, NDE, OBE and Hypnosis”, I have put some real prominent cases to help us understand the mysteries.

In next section “Solution to Mind-Body Problem” there are some very strong arguments to prove that:

1. Body, Brain, Mind, Consciousness, Soul - all these are completely different and separate (There is much more than dualism)
2. Mind and Soul are also substances (Descarte termed it as Non-Material), we can term it as “Jiva” instead of Mind.
3. Consciousness is a property of an element / substance “Jiva”

At last we will discuss about:

If we want to understand “Consciousness”, then we need to change some of our current fundamental beliefs.

How the knowledge of consciousness, self and “Jiva” or “Atman/Soul” can solve current personal, family, social, political and international problems?

II. SHRIJIMAHARAJ’S EXCLUSIVE CONTROL AND 100% EMPIRICAL EXPERIENCE OF CONSCIOUSNESS

As I told earlier, due to lack of empirical experience of consciousness, the philosophical inquiries on consciousness, mind and body etc...became mysteries before us. But here I am introducing a personality ‘ShrijiMaharaj’, who had 100% empirical experience of Body-Mind-Consciousness and Soul. ShrijiMaharaj was born on 3rd April, 1781 in a small village “Chapiya”, Nr. Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India. He had some super natural qualities since His birth. He could see His self (consciousness, mind and soul), could control other’s consciousness to act them as per His wish. There are many incidences, I point to some of them related to topic here:

1. Once there was a philosophical debate in a village Mandavi, Kutchh, Gujarat, India. ShrijiMaharaj won the opponent named “KhaiyaKhatree”. A fan of KhaiyaKhatree started abusing at ShrijiMaharaj.

ShrijiMaharaj took control of that guy’s consciousness and suddenly he started appraising and appreciating ShrijiMaharaj’s win. ShrijiMaharaj told him to remove his hairs from head and become a monk. He removed his hairs and wear monk’s clothes. When ShrijiMaharaj released his consciousness back, that guy was amazed how he could remove his hair and wear the clothes of monk. Everyone started laughing at him and praised the super natural powers of ShrijiMaharaj.

2. He was able to see and control not only His own consciousness but He was able to control others’ in large number as well! He could control thousands of people’s consciousness at once and send them into “Samadhi”, for few hours and sometimes for many days or few months. Very often He caused people at large feel ‘Out of Body Experience’.

As I told earlier, ShreejiMaharaj had empirical experience of consciousness, here are His two clear statements:

1. “I Exercise complete control over my buddhi, man, chitt and ahamkar. In fact I seize my antahkaran just as a lion clutches a goat, whereas others can’t even see their antahkaran.”¹
2. “I slept very soundly last night, and though I tried very hard to awake, I could not. During that sleep, I thought a great deal. It is based upon these thoughts that I have taken a resolution, about which I shall now tell you.” He then said, “Even before Imet RāmānandSwāmi (Spiritual Guru), I could see Myātmā as if it were before My eyes, and I also see it now. That ātmā is luminous with light like that of the sun. Even amidst the activities of all Myindriyas, I do not lose awareness of that ātmā for even a moment.”²

He had also shown the way, how one can have such empirical experience of consciousness! He said:

- “In actual fact, such ātmā-realisation is very difficult to attain. Only a fortunate person who has sanskārs of many past lives is able to attain such realisation, whereas if someone else were to contemplate upon the ātmā for even a hundred years, he would still not attain realisation. “So how can one attain ātmā-realisation? Well, when one meditates on the form of Shri Krishna Bhagwān, it is not at all difficult to attain realisation. Conversely, no one should even hope of realising or seeing the ātmā by merely contemplating upon it without meditating on God.

He had 100% true experience of consciousness over others, that we can understand when He commented on some of the earlier

¹Gadhada Section, 1/18, Vachnamrutam

²Gadhada Section, 2/35, Vachnamrutam

personalities who claimed to see “Atman” or consciousness. Once His disciple Brahmānand Swāmi asked, “Many see the jiva to be like a star, or like the flame of an oil lamp, or like the flash from a firecracker. How should one understand these differences in experiences?”

- ShrijiMahārāj explained, “People describe the nature of the jiva according to however they have seen it. But, because they have not attained transcendent vision, they do not see the ātmā as it is. However, when a person’s vision does become transcendent and one with his ātmā, he no longer perceives the divisions of the different organs of the indriyas; instead, he realises the ātmā as it truly is.”³
- He was able to separate His own soul from body and depart at His will!

It was on 1st June 1830, He told: ‘I want to leave this body and return to my abode. He sat in Padmasana (Yogic Posture) and in front of a large crowd, He departed His soul from body and thus left His body.

So to summarize this section we can conclude: 1. ShrijiMaharaj talked about consciousness based on His empirical experience, which we find nowhere else. 2. He could see/control consciousness of His own and others as well 3. He knew how others can experience it empirically and gave tips for it.

III. VACHNAMRUTAM

Vachnamrutam is a collection of 262 chapters, grouped by name of villages where each chapter was delivered as a discourse or discussion mostly in form of question answer. Gadhada is a village, same way Loya is a village. So depending on villages it’s divided in 7 groups – Gadhada, Sarangpur, Kariyani, Loya, Panchala, Vartal and Amdavad. All of these villages are located in Gujarat, India.

In reference to the book Vachnamrutam, our modern age knowledge of mind and body is that of abacus machine. Actually human body is a most complex creation than any super computer or AI machine man had ever created. Vachnamrutam holds that in a live human body, there are 51 elements⁴ working in conjunction to one another! It has detailed following information on those 51 elements:

1. Their properties
2. Substance they are made of
3. Interaction among them
4. What are their dependencies to one another?

In fact it describes the whole working model of human body in much detail. It can help many sciences and faculties like medicine, psychiatrist, Psychologists, Neurosurgeon etc...

³Loya Section / 15, Vachnamrutam

⁴3 gunas, 10 indriyas, 10 prāns, 4 antahkarans, 5 bhuts, 5 panchvishays, and the deities of the 14 realms

It solves very nicely - our modern day philosophical mysteries like ‘Consciousness’ and ‘Mind-Body problem’. As there is much more in Vachnamrutam like: what happens after death? How consciousness travels in time and space? What are other body forms consciousness can have after death of human body? Where does soul live after death? Origin of Consciousness? Description of places soul travels to? How to cease rebirth? Is there consciousness in trees or animals? What is the salvation? Why do we dream? How to conquer sorrow and keep the state of happiness intact forever? It also includes discussions related to Ontology, Epistemology, Theology, Life Cycle of Consciousness etc. So there is an ocean of knowledge in Vachnamrutam. But in this paper I have solved only the mysteries of ‘Consciousness’ and ‘Mind-Body Problem’ out of it.

Vachnamrutam is mostly a question – answer type book. Philosophy scholars, common people have asked questions and ShrijiMaharaj had answered them. Some often ShrijiMaharaj had thrown light on typical topics willingly. So, prime character of the book is ShrijiMaharaj, who had empirical experience of said mysteries.

Now I recall some of His statements about mind and body to be separate, those match very closely with modern discoveries of reincarnation. I will match them later with reincarnation.

He stated: “*Furthermore*, this body should not be believed to be one’s true self. Nor should one’s bodily relations be regarded as one’s true relations.”⁵

“That ātmā is neither a Brāhmin, nor a Kshatriya, nor a Kanbi. It is no one’s son and no one’s father. It belongs to no caste and to no class.”⁶

“...the jivātmā is given a dagli (shirt) in the form of this body, which is born sometimes to a Brāhmin (a caste in India) couple; sometimes to a low-caste couple”⁷

“... thejivātmā, is neither male nor female - it is characterised by pure existence and consciousness.”⁸

“... Due to the difference between an effect and its cause, there are two types of elements. The elements that are in the form of the cause are chaitanya, and the elements that are in the form of the effect are jad (material). Now, in actuality, the jiva (atman) resides in the heart; but through its power of consciousness, it behaves with oneness with the body, indriyas and antahkaran. As a result, the body, indriyas, etc., appear to be chaitanya (moving/acting etc), but in reality they are jad (material).”⁹

⁵Gadhada Section, 1/21, Vachnamrutam

⁶Gadhada Section 3/39, Vachnamrutam

⁷Gadhada Section 1/44, Vachnamrutam

⁸Gadhada Section 3/22, Vachnamrutam

⁹Gadhada Section 2/34, Vachnamrutam

“.... ātmā has experienced death in countless ways, yet it has not perished. It has remained as it is.”¹⁰

It is to realise the ātmā as being distinct from the body.¹¹

“... (ātmā) is also full of consciousness. ... When an ant is touched by a finger, it moves and turns back. Same way the ātmā is full of consciousness.”¹² Thus He has told consciousness to be a property of ātmā,

IV. MODERN DISCOVERIES – REINCARNATION, NDE, OBE AND HYPNOSIS.

Here in this section we will explore some real case studies, some researchers have spent their life behind it for an extensive research. These cases are published in Time magazine, New York Times, BBC and some of the bestselling books. The discoveries I want to mention are Reincarnation, Near Death Experiences/Out of Body Experiences and Hypnosis.

A. Reincarnation

Reincarnation is a paradox to accept. But it's being accepted rapidly across the globe by doctors and scientists as well as common people at large. Let me list here some leading news supporting reincarnation.

New York Times declares as, “According to data released last year by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, a quarter of Americans now believe in reincarnation. (Women are more likely to believe than men; Democrats more likely than Republicans.)”¹³

Dr. Michael Newton after his research says that we never die. After research he confirms that Life-Death-Life cycle is real. Now I list some cases of reincarnation from Dr. Ian Stevenson's book “*Twenty suggestive cases of reincarnation*”.

V. CASE OF NIRMAL

Nirmal was a ten year old boy who died in 1950 and got his next birth in KosiKalan (District Mathura, U.P., India). He was then named Prakash. Sometimes Prakash would say, “I am Nirmal, not Prakash.” He recalled the names of Nirmal's relatives and friends. He identified his past life's father as well. When Prakash was brought to KosiKalan, he identified Nirmal's brother, 2 aunts, and neighbours. Also identified parts of house he lived before.”

VI. CASE OF JASBIR

Case of Jasbir was a little different. He was first born to GirdharilalJat, Rasulpur, Muzaffarnagar, U.P., India. Due to smallpox he died. As it was night, people decided to bury jasbir in day time next day. After few hours jasbir got alive. It took him few days to get well and speak again. But it was astonishing that

there was a complete change in his behaviour. He reported that “I am not jasbir, rather I belong to Shankar (my father), village vedehi. He refused to eat and said, “I belong to higher cast ‘Brahmin’, I can't eat here. After investigation it was found true that he recalled his previous life of Sobha Ram.

Now, we go to a bit past. In May 1954 a man Sobha Ram died as described by Jasbir. The book describes: “it was Sobha Ram who reincarnated as Jasbir and recalled his past life. The moment Sobha Ram died, He entered the dead body of Jasbir. So, Jasbir now started behaving and acting as Sobha Ram.” Jasbir told everything about Sobharam. Interesting fact is, in other reincarnation cases the victim born after death of his/her previous life. In this case the previous one sobharam was alive when jasbir died. He entered jasbir's body. I will comment on this case specially later on.

The above incidence proves that consciousness can enter into a dead body as happened with Shankaracharya. He entered dead body of a King for several days.

VII. CASE OF SUKLA

Sri K.N. Sen Gupta had a daughter ‘Shukla’. They lived in village ‘Kampa’, West Bengal. She was born in 1954, March. When she was 1½ year old, she remembered memories of her past life's daughter “Minu”. She remembered her previous life's husband as well. Then also his younger brothers Khetu and Karuna. She was at Bhatpara in previous life. It was 41 miles of her current birth place “Kampa”. In summer 1959 when she visited Bhatpara, she led everyone to her past home. She identified various objects, including saris that had belonged to her daughter Minu. Suklahad deep affection with her previous family members than current one. She wanted to go back to her past family members.

This incidence shows that the conscious preserves the feelings of past lives with it. So brain is not responsible for feelings, its conscious element which is responsible for feelings.

VIII. CASE OF SWARNALATA

On 02-03-1948, Swarnalata was born at Shahpur, Madhya Pradesh. She was 3½ years old, when she was on a trip to Jabalpur with her father, 170 miles from her home town. On return, when they passed by the city of Katni which is 57 miles from Jabalpur, Swarnalata unexpectedly told: We are at my house. While they were enjoying tea at Katani, she told: “We can have much better tea at my home.” She started talking about her past life's house which was at Katni. Swarnalata remembered memories of her two past lives. Previous to this birth, she was a boy kamleshand died at age of 11. She learnt some dances and lyrics in Bengali language. Those she remembered in birth of Swarnalata and performed those dance and lyrics as well. The lyrics were in Bengali which she never came across in this birth. She knew Hindi language in current birth but memorised previous

¹⁰Gadhada Section 3/39, Vachnamrutam

¹¹Gadhada Section 3/39, Vachnamrutam

¹²Gadhada Section 3/39, Vachnamrutam

¹³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/29/fashion/29PastLives.html>

birth's lyrics in bengali and dance. She could perform it very well without any training or practice in current birth. Please remember these cases, as I will recall them subsequently to unfold the mysteries in following sections.

A. "Solution to Mind-Body Problem"

There is a century long debated philosophical problem as "Mind-Body Problem". The debate on this problem is – "Only body is everything or Mind also exists independent of Body?" If mind is separate and non-physical then how it interacts on body and vice – versa?

ShrijiMaharaj had continuous perception of His self. He didn't experience it accidentally or by chance. He had complete control over it. He could control consciousness of others too.

ShrijiMaharaj has clearly stated this difference, "...Due to the difference between an effect and its cause, there are two types of elements. The elements that are in the form of the cause are chaitanya¹⁴, and the elements that are in the form of the effect are jad¹⁵. Now, in actuality, the jiva¹⁶resides in the heart; but through its power of consciousness, it behaves with oneness with the body, indriyas¹⁷and antahkaran. As a result, the body, indriyas, etc., appear to be chaitanya, but in reality they are jad."¹⁸

In above phrase it is said that body is non-conscious and it looks lively only because of the conscious element resides in it. Here He said that the cause element (consciousness) is responsible for life in the effect element (body) is lifeless and material thing. Same thing is proved with the reincarnation cases listed in previous section. When the cause element left the body, it became dead. The same element was cause of life in next birth in new body.

In this section I will prove/describe 2 points as follows that solves "Mind-Body problem":

- There is something absolutely different than Body, responsible for consciousness
- That different thing than body is an element / substance (Descarte termed it as Non-Material) and Causal Interaction between Mind-Body
- How to have an empirical experience of Conscious element?
- Mind and Body are completely different

If we think about above reincarnation cases, then we find that body of previous birth is cremated or buried, that means brain turned to ashes or dirt. If we maintain that brain is responsible for memory, then howone could carry memory to next birth?

¹⁴Conscious, Lively element

¹⁵Non-Conscious, Mere material thing with no life in it

¹⁶The conscious element, Aatma/Soul

¹⁷ Five Senses (touch, smell, taste,

¹⁸Gadhada Section 2/34

So here is a list what reincarnation refutes:

- It refutes all those theories, which believe and relate everything (Thoughts, Feelings, Learning, Qualia) to body and brain.
- It refutes the concept: "Everything vanishes with body."
- It refutes to those who don't believe in "Mind and Body to be different".
- It refutes mind to be a non-material or non-physical thing.

The Reincarnation cases establish that:

- There is something which is absolutely different than body, which carries information up to next births. Let's term this element different than body as "Jiva". From now onwards I will use the word "Jiva" for Substance different from body.
- "Jiva" is common to next birth's bodies and carry forward memories/experiences/feelings/learnings.
- If we look at the case of Swarnalata, her memories/experiences/feelings/earning etc..all carried to her next births. She had deep feelings and sympathy for her past life family members. She got emotional while remembered past life incidences. She learned dance and lyrics in previous birth and preserved it as it is, even in next birth. From this we can say: 'Jiva' can learn and has capability to sustain and remember what it learned. Because dance is a complex art to act in sync with song/lyrics. Swarnalata didn't learn dance in new birth, she learned it in past birth when she was a boy "Kamlesh". It shows us that the "Jiva" is independent of body and when it is in another body or next birth, it can interact on body to dance the same way it learned in previous birth. It proves Jiva's interaction on body.
- From Jasbir's case we can conclude that "Jiva" is life to body. When "Jiva" departs, the very moment body becomes dead. Jasbir was dead as "Jiva" flew away from it. When "Jiva" of Shobharam entered Jasbir's body, there was again life in it.
- Most of the doctors define death to the death of brain or heart. This is not true. Because some people had a normal death without any disease or complain. Those who didn't encounter any serious injury to heart or brain also die a normal death.

If we hold 'breathing' to be responsible for life, then it's not true,because after deathwe can put a person on artificial breathing system. Person'slungs may breathe artificially,but might not have any life in it.

We also have a puzzle about abortion to be legal or not? Is there any life in a foetus? Yes, the "Jiva" of previous birth enters into the growing child's body into the womb. To grow it needs life. Life is due to "Jiva" only. So we can conclude that from very first day, foetus need life and thus "Jiva" in it. As there is "Jiva" in it, there is life. So abortion is to kill a life or person supposed to come on earth.

B. Few Reasons for “Jiva” to be a substance

- For anything to exist independently, it must be some sort of material or substance. From reincarnation case and NDE we can maintain that “Jiva” have to be a substance because it exists independently. This substance can be different from our understanding of material / substance. It might be away from our perceptual catch.
- Anything travel in space and time has to be a substance or material. “Jiva” travels from one body to another in space and time.
- Anything interact on material has to be some form of material / substance. In reincarnation cases, the feelings belonging to previous family members were not developed in current body. We acknowledged that a person cry or worry for previous life’s family members then tears are to current body. This implies that “Jiva” (who carried previous birth’s feelings in current body) interacts on body, so it must be a substance.
- A substance/material is required to store any kind of information. “Jiva” stores information of past lives and carries it to next lives. So “Jiva” is a substance/material.
- For “Jiva” to be a substance, raises the possibility of its interaction on body. Thus a most debated question “How can mind interact on body?” is solved. As “Jiva” is a substance and body is material thing, interaction is possible.

C. How to experience consciousness empirically?

Most often people state “Jiva” (the element other than body) to be non-physical as they can’t see or have any empirical experience of it.

But there are so many things which are physical, still we can’t see it. Can we see X-Rays? Waves emitting from TV Remote? So it’s due to limitation of our senses, we don’t see many physical things. Same way we don’t see “Jiva” but it is physical. When limitation of senses is overcome by Yogic Procedures, person’s perceptual capacity increases and then one can have empirical perception of Atma and everything that exists. Shriji Maharaj told it as,

- “With regards to the strength of the indriyas, one who practises yoga coupled with austerities, nivrutti dharma, and vairāgya attains yogic powers like that of Shukji.¹⁹”
- “...a person whose mind’s vrutti is constantly focused on the form of God can instantly see, if he so wishes, the forms of jiva, ishwar, māyā and Brahma.”²⁰
- “... Furthermore, when this thought meets with the ātmā, divine light is generated in the heart of the thinker, and he has the realisation of himself as being brahmarup. In

addition, he also has the realisation of ParabrahmaNārāyan - who resides within that Brahma.

- “...“It is also My command that all paramhansas and all satsangis should continue performing a ‘gnān-yagna’. While performing a ‘gnān-yagna’ in this manner, one ultimately has a divine vision of Parabrahma within one’s own self, which is Brahma. This is the fruit of the ‘gnān-yagna’. The climax of the ‘gnān-yagna’ ritual is when one becomes like a niranna-mukta of Shwetdwip.”²¹

B. Hypnotic Regression

One may raise an objection, “Few out of billions of people can recall previous birth’s memories, very low in percentages. Why should we judge that reincarnation is true for everyone?” The objection is overruled by another modern day discoveries – “Past Life Regression.”

Past life regression is a technique that uses hypnosis to recover what practitioners believe are memories of past lives. Here is a much famous real case of Virginia Tighe, it was highlighted by reputed magazines and newspapers like ‘New York Times’. Later the case was filmed as well.

In 1952, hypnotist Morey Bernstein put housewife Virginia Tighe (Ruth Simmons) in a trance. It brought her to Tighe’s past life when she was Irish woman of 19th-century. Now it was her rebirth in the United States after 59 years. After Bernstein taken back Tighe to childhood through hypnosis regression therapy. He then attempted to take Tighe one step further, before birth, and was surprised that she was talking about her past life as Bridey Murphy, born to Duncan (a barrister) Murphy and started talking when she was aged 8 then. She talked much about her past life then.²²

C. Near Death Experiences

Time Magazine reported that, “Gallup poll says that, nearly 8 million Americans claim for experiencing a near-death experience (NDE), Many of them count it as proof of an afterlife—a parallel, spiritual realm, more real, many say, than this one. Raymond Moody, writer of *Life After Life* in 1975, one of the first popular books about NDEs, told CNN in 2013 that among people who have had such experiences, conviction about an afterlife transcends the particulars of religion.”²³

Near Death Experiences (NDE) implies something separate than body. It can travel, see, feel, remember, think without body. When there is a death of a person, its self or atma get out of body and resides somewhere else till next birth. People with Near Death Experience reported it to be hell or heaven. NDE also proves a substance atma to exist independent of body

²¹Gadhadha Section 2/8, Vachnamrutam

²²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bridey_Murphy

²³<http://time.com/68381/life-beyond-death-the-science-of-the-afterlife-2/>

¹⁹Gadhadha Section 2/20, Vachnamrutam

²⁰Gadhadha Section 1/1, Vachnamrutam

and possesses much more power and ability than body. Here are listed some prominent supportive statements from leading personalities and magazines.



Dr. Robert Lanza²⁴ says consciousness can never die. The body dies, but does consciousness die with it? No, he says.

Consciousness continues after the body dies. After he worked in biocentrism, he stated consciousness to be at the root of creation, it can never die.

Dr. Lanza stated that of constraints of time and space is not applicable to consciousness as it exists outside. It's able to live in the human body and outside of it. Death of consciousness simply exists as a thought because people identify themselves with their body.

Dr. Melvin L. Morse, pediatrician & neuroscientist. One of America's top pediatricians. Since 1980 he has studied NDE of children his research tells these experiences to be real.



He said, "We want to explore and promote the practical applications of understanding this new paradigm of consciousness".²⁵

He was overwhelmed through lot of feedback from children reporting a near-death experience. Dr. Morse refers to these feedbacks in several of his books and here are few of them:

Chris (8 year old) boy when his heart stopped beating, he was dead and resuscitated told, "Dr. Morse, I have a wonderful secret for you. I was climbing a staircase to heaven".

Drowned in a swimming pool, a seven year old girl came back to life and after her near-death experience she drew a picture of heaven and she included her unborn brother (angels told her that your brother will born with heart disease. She showed it to Dr. Morse after her brother born with said symptoms.



P.M.H. Atwater has interviewed more than 3,000 people with near-death experience. Her research about the after-effects of near-death were published in 1981 in Vital Signs magazine.

In her research Atwater heard many near-death experience stories and in one of them we meet "Ken" who shares his story. He's being rushed to the emergency room after an accident. He "dies" and describes what happened:

²⁴He's been voted the 3rd most important scientist alive by the NY Times and voted one of the 100 most influential people in the world by Time Magazine. Dr. Lanza is the author of the book titled Biocentrism: How Life and Consciousness Are the Keys to Understanding the Nature of the Universe.

²⁵<https://www.one-mind-one-energy.com/near-death-experience.html>

My eyes were open, but I did not see. I had the sensation of moving through a dark space then I suddenly was in the light. I was across the emergency room by the counter and could see the gurney flanked by a State Trooper.

Dr. Raymond Moody, M.D., Ph.D. coined the word "Near Death Experience" for first time. His 12 books on NDE hit the market with 20 million copies sold.



His pioneering work transformed the thinking about life and death. His book Life After Life shock millions of people. New York Times calls him "the father of the near-death experience."

He continues to draw enormous public interest and generate controversy with his ground-breaking works on the near-death experience and what happens when we die.

- The encounter afterlife experiences passing comments – "It happens in those countries who believe in reincarnation or those who are orthodox believe in GOD etc...."
- There is a person who didn't believe in reincarnation nor in GOD before. He is Mellen-Thomas Benedict: The most studied near death experience in the world sharing his experience Mellen-Thomas Benedict suffered terminal brain cancer in 1982. When he "died" he was lifeless for 1 ½ hour. Then he returned to his body with a complete remission of the disease. Deepak Chopra has called him the encyclopedia of the afterlife.

After he "died" he was taken to the light. He explains:

I was rocketing away from the planet on the stream of Life. I saw the earth fly away. The solar system, in all its splendor, whizzed by and disappeared. At faster than light speed, I flew through the center of the galaxy, absorbing more knowledge as I went. I learned that this galaxy, and all of the Universe, is bursting with many different varieties of LIFE. I saw many worlds. When he cried for help, an angel helped him as well.

- *Dr. Eben Alexander - A Neurosurgeon who didn't believe in afterlife changed his opinion after himself experienced NDE in a book "Proof of Heaven, A neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife"*



In 2008, Dr. Eben Alexander's brain was severely impaired and left him into a weeklong coma. He returned back from coma and told his NDE story.

During those seven days in coma, he was in the deepest realms of consciousness. In October 2012 he published "Proof of Heaven". He says:

As a neurosurgeon, I did not believe in the phenomenon of near-death experiences. I grew up in a scientific world, the son of a neurosurgeon.... there is no scientific explanation for the fact that while my body lay in coma, my mind—my conscious, inner self—was alive and well. While the neurons of my cortex were stunned to complete inactivity by the bacteria that had attacked

them, my brain-free consciousness journeyed to another, larger dimension of the universe: a dimension I'd never dreamed existed and which the old, pre-coma me would have been more than happy to explain was a simple impossibility.

Gary R. Renard also mentions this in his book *The Disappearance Of The Universe*. He says:



The body is the vehicle or the container used by consciousness to experience itself. If you drive a car and the car breaks down you leave the car behind and continue your journey. The same with consciousness. The body breaks down and dies, but consciousness (the driver) moves on.

IX. CONSCIOUSNESS

So what is consciousness?

Most of the people, Philosophical theories and sciences try to relate consciousness to brain. But as I have mentioned earlier, brain is cremated in case of reincarnation cases. Still memories, experiences, feelings transferred to next birth! So consciousness is completely different than body and it has prime role in body than brain.

As ShrijiMaharaj told, "There are two types of elements – one is cause element and another is effect. Consciousness is the cause element and body is effect element."

So first thing to understand consciousness is: "It's a completely different substance than body."

It uses body to percept or experience external world. How it interact with body?

He says, "From there (Heart), when it wants to see, it does so through the eyes; when it wants to hear sounds, it does so through the ears; it smells all types of smells through the nose; it tastes through the tongue; and through the skin, it experiences the pleasures of all sensations. In addition, it thinks through the man, contemplates through the chitt and makes convictions through the buddhi. In this manner, through the ten indriyas and the four antahkarans, it indulges in all of the vishays. It pervades the entire body from head to toe, yet is distinct from it. Such is the nature of the jiva."

It's consciousness who see, not the eyes. Its conscious smells not the nose. All the five senses eyes, nose, ear, skin and tongue are mere containers. Let me give an example:

Robert is at his room window, looking to road outside. John passes walking on road. Few minutes later Mark came to Robert and asked, "Did you see John today?" Robert says, 'No'. Actually Robert's eyes saw John, but at that very moment he was not mentally present, he was thinking about his exams. Here, eyes saw john, but consciousness was not engaged. It concludes:

Eyes have secondary role and consciousness has prime role in seeing. Same is true for all five senses.

Actually consciousness receives perceptions and experience generated at sense organs (eye, ear, skin etc) through brain and nervous system! Consciousness depends upon brain and nervous system, so we confuse consciousness with brain. Scientists and researchers now need to focus on 'Conscious element behind the brain!' then only the mystery will get solved!

Earlier I have mentioned 51 elements working together inside body. How do they interact and related to each other are explored as follows.

ShrijiMahārāj then explained, "The sthul body²⁶ is composed of the five elements known as the five mahābhuts: pruthvi, jal, etc. The sukshma body²⁷ is composed of 19 elements: the five gnān-indriyas, the five karma-indriyas, the five prāns and the four antahkarans. Yet, only when the sukshma body is interwoven with the sthul body can all activities be carried out properly, but not otherwise. This is because only when the sukshma body, together with the indriyas, joins the sthul body - which includes the indriyas' organs, i.e., the eyes, ears, etc. - can the respective vishays of those indriyas be indulged in. This is not possible by the indriyas' organs of the sthul body alone. Thus, the sukshma body composed of the 19 elements is interwoven with the sthul body composed of the five elements. That is why the sthul body is also said to be composed of 24 elements.

"In the same manner, the pleasures of the sukshma body can only be indulged in when the sukshma body behaves as one with the sthul body, which is composed of the five elements. ... Thus, there is oneness between the sthul body and the sukshma body during the waking state and the dream state."²⁸

What is the specific location of conscious element in the body? ShreejiMaharaj Says, "It resides in the hrudayākāsh (Space within the heart, Spiritual region of the heart), and while staying there it performs different functions."²⁹

For its shape He says,

"That jiva appears to be in one place; it appears to be as fine as the tip of a spear; and it appears to be extremely subtle."³⁰

How conscious element (Jiva) interacts with body?

Thereupon ShrijiMahārāj said, "In the body, ... there is a transformation of the five mahābhuts into a disc of flesh, within which the jiva resides. The jiva clings to this disc of flesh like a torch made of rags that is set alight after being immersed in oil. Also, just as fire pervades an iron nail, similarly, the jiva actually resides in the disc of flesh, and by consciousness pervades the

²⁶Our Physical or Gross Body (made of earth, water, fire, air and void)

²⁷ It's a subtle body we can't see. Made of 19 subtle elements related to mind, senses etc.

²⁸Sarangpur Section/14, Vachnamrutam

²⁹Jetalpur Section / 2, Vachnamrutam

³⁰Kariyani Section / 1, Vachnamrutam

entire body. Therefore, regardless of where pain is felt in the body, it is the jiva itself that feels the pain; so, in fact, the jiva cannot be said to be separate from the pleasures and pains of the body.”³¹

What are properties of conscious element ?

one should realise one's true self as being the ātmā, distinct from the body.

“That ātmā is neither a Brāhmin, nor a Kshatriya, nor a Kanbi. It is no one's son and no one's father. It belongs to no caste and to no class. It is radiant like the sun and fire; but it is also full of consciousness. The flames of fire and the rays of the sun are jad because they do not move when touched by the finger. However, when an ant is touched by a finger, it moves and turns back. This implies that the ātmā is full of consciousness. It is said to be similar to the sun or to fire, but that is merely because its form is similar in radiance.”³²

We most often compare Robots, Cleverbots or Artificial Intelligent Machines to Human Beings while talking about consciousness!

We confuse with consciousness because,

- A bot chats with humans like a real human being, we can't decide whether a man or bot is on other side of chat
- As Human being learns, the Artificial machines can learn as well and remember.
- Human beings can process data and take intelligent decisions, today AI enabled systems are also doing it.

There could be still remarkable advancement in robotics and AI. But still there are many things a robot or AI would never be able to do because they don't have the element “Atma” and its property consciousness.

1. Will robot feel attraction as human being feels to opposite sex?
2. Can it feel the joy when a tennis player wins a Wimbledon? One may set robot to express joy while it win and sorrow while it loses. But when a father loses a game to his 2 year son trying to learn a game, still he feels joy! Can a robot differentiate it or feel it?
3. Can it enjoy the feeling of eating something very delicious we like?
4. Can it worry for its kid as a mother does?
5. It can demand fuel when it's below some level of fuel or battery. If we don't fuel or recharge its battery, will it cry like a child! Someone may set a crying alarm while battery is below 2%. But when battery is 100% discharge? Can it cry? It will require 2% of charging to cry! But can it feel what hunger is? The difference is: “A child can cry even he is 70% full at stomach, sometimes 80% full at stomach and sometimes 100% full at stomach for the ice cream he likes most! Sometimes even he is hungry, he may overlook his

delicious item when busy watching cartoons he enjoys more with it.” Do you think a robot or AI to have this ability?

6. While we say “Hello”, We have different feelings to our loving ones over some stranger. Is it possible for a Robot or AI machine to really feel this difference?
7. When a man chats with a woman, he feels bit of tickling. Can a turing machine ever be able to feel this tickling?
8. We possess vast variety of feelings. Is it possible for a robot or AI to possess all these collectively in it? Will it be able to have feelings a mother has for its child? A spouse has for its husband after she marry a person new to her life? Sympathy for poor? Mercy for animals? Care for environment? Phobia? Devotion to GOD? Thanks giving for helping ones? Gratefulness towards teachers? Pity for being insulted? Happy for being admired?
9. People commit suicide for them feeling loneliness as biggest cause behind. A living creature has a quest for being loved? Do robots be able to cultivate this feeling in future and will they commit suicide while feeling lonely? Some may put a kind of sensor in robot to feel lonely and destroy itself. But opposite to it some people like to be lonely, they become nervous while in crowd! Different Robots can't have such different sensations! They will sense and act for what they are made for!
10. Any sort of Reincarnation is possible with robots or AI?
11. Can it feel anything like Near Death Experience or Out of Body Experience?
12. Animals including human beings have ability to feel, robots don't have. But in modern age we are so busy with work and goals, we don't spend time to feel. People are busy with offices, mobile phone, clubs and personal activities. They don't sit or spend time with his parents, spouse or children. People don't have time for funeral of their dear ones. They do it on holidays! Man is towards becoming machine, so he is forgetting feelings. Becoming a machine, man doesn't see the difference any more in machine and himself.
13. ShrijiMaharaj says, “..That in which the jivātmā dwells when it indulges in the vishays is known as a ‘state’. There are three types of states: waking, dream and deep sleep.”³³ Thus Consciousness causes animals 3 states waking, dream and sleep. Is it possible for robot to dream?
14. An AI car can drive without human driving. It will take the shortest route to destination. But sometimes we choice for a longer route as we love mountains and springs on that route. AI robots of the car can possess such feelings and will take long route at its own?
15. Robot may learn several languages but will it be inspired to write a poem when there is a rainbow or a beautiful garden in front of it?

Robots are made of physical materials, it doesn't possess conscious element. Conscious element can't be produced and kept in robots.

³¹GadhadaSeciton³⁴, Vachnamrutam

³²Gadhada Section 3/39, Vachnamrutam

X. CONCLUSION

To conclude I will say, “The knowledge of oneself believing an conscious element is to accept that I am nor man neither women, I never die but I am immortal (so what to worry for?), I have come to earth for countless times, sometimes I was billionaire and sometimes poor, sometimes ill and sometimes healthy, sometimes beautiful and sometimes ugly looking, sometimes genius and sometimes average, sometimes to one country and sometimes to other, sometimes to a religion and sometimes to other. If we digest this very fact of being a soul / conscious element, then world will be free of worry and war of religion, cast, greed or any miseries. Because whatever we earn or make is of no use when our body dies. Our good deeds mold our future births. Let’s keep doing good to others and accept everyone in this universe as of our family, because in some birth you were part of anyone’s family! The connection we have forgot in this birth!”