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Science, Philosophy and Religion

What is the Human Mind? How does it work?

The Brain

Adenáuer Novaes

The mind is a communication channel in the service of the Spirit. In the mind the processing of desire and will happens, which begins at the core of the Spirit. The mind connects to the brain thanks to the properties of the perispirit in which it is located and remains even after the death of the physical body. According to the Analytical Psychology of Carl Gustav Jung, the human mind or psyche is composed of the Unconscious and Conscious. The Unconscious is divided into Personal and Collective. It is in the Collective Unconscious that lay the Archetypes, psychic structures that determine and guide human behavior. Yet the Personal unconscious is composed mainly of *Complexes*, functional cores full of affection, arising from emotional experiences. In the mind thoughts and emotions are also processed, since it is here that the Spirit's experiences are recorded, and everything that happens to it. The relationship between the Conscious and Unconscious is compensatory, e.g.; every tension in one of these parties will be compensated in another. Conscious is the product of the Unconscious, the latter being the matrix of all activities that occur in the first, as well as of the emergence of the *Ego* or the "I". It is through the mind that intellectual mediumship phenomena pass.

The impulse for life is born in the Spirit, the divine essence

or immortal individuality, going towards the Unconscious, crossing it to reach Conscious and eventually turning into behavior by the Ego's action. Along the way, between leaving the Spirit until it reaches



the Ego, alchemically mix emotions, thoughts and feelings with contents of the Unconscious and Conscious itself, eliciting a set of behaviors that delineate what is known under the name of Personality. A person's personality is the set of behaviors, thoughts and emotions that form at any given time or stage of life. It is changeable throughout the incarnation, and especially in the gap between the incarnations. The mind is an important "organ" for the Spirit and its primary means of contact with the dimension in which it is situated. It is the "factory" processing *Psychic Energy* to service the evolution of the Spirit, deserving attention, care and constant use of love-liness.

Adenáuer Novaes is a Clinical Psychologist and one of the directors of the Foundation "Lar Harmonia" in Salvador, living in Brazil.

"The brain is the central force that, only little by little has been discovered, lying almost entirely ignored, particularly with regards to psychological, parapsychological and psychic phenomena.

Only the epiphysis or pineal gland, located in the brain above and behind the optical layers, is, itself, an incomparable sanctuary that *watches* for the sexual functions during childhood and puberty, experiencing significant changes in form and function; becomes thereafter, a casket of light, a *lotus of a thousand petals* that unfold like ultra-sensitive antennas towards the spiritual Spheres where life proceeds, playing a key role in the spiritual experiences of human beings."

*Joanna de Ângelis
Book: O Despertar do Espírito.*

"The mind, externalizing the psychological levels, is responsible for the attitudes, for expressing the spiritual reality of each one."

*Joanna de Ângelis
Book: Momentos de Saúde*

Consciousness in Progress

Evanise M Zwirtes

The transpersonal approach, in the spiritist's psychology view which considers the person's spiritual anteriority, presents the human as an evolving being, undergoing an internship through nature's different kingdoms.

Initially the being is created simple and ignorant, that is, without knowledge and wisdom, travels through experiences from the unconscious state to the conscious one. The intelligent principle will awaken its full potential throughout experiences in the matter.

The Spirit Joanna de Ângelis, in *O Homem Integral* (11th edition; pp. 154), elucidates that "the acquisition of consciousness is the result of an ongoing process, through which the *psyche* augments, from the dormant state in the mineral's molecules binding force; to the *sensitivity* in the plant; *instinct* in the animal; and *intelligence, reason* in the human being."

The evolving consciousness is a process of psychological development, in which the human being in its triple constitution – Spirit, perispirit and matter – increases consciousness, following the natural mechanism of life. Perceiving oneself as an integral and timeless being will awaken, gradually, to cosmic consciousness. The conquest of the enlightened human consciousness, as Jung suggested "breaks the chain of suffering, acquiring thereby metaphysical and cosmic significance."

In the progression's proposal, the human being is a set in continuous transition, in accordance to the laws of God, which are inserted in the being's own consciousness, since its creation.

Aiming at this analysis' paradigm, of progression, Reincarnation becomes a mechanism that facilitates the expansion of consciousness, meeting the Spirit's evolution, the immortal being, in progressive change of incessant improvement in all aspects.

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Reincarnation and Integral Memory

Ercilia Zilli

Reincarnation, according to spiritists, is the process of returning to earthly existence, successively, with the goal of spiritual evolution. The belief in the survival of the soul and the possibility of constant learning leads us to think of the accumulation of these experiences

regardless of whether they occurred in this or other reincarnations, which are not conscious.

Through specialized techniques, it is possible to access some information from past existences, but certainly we can not get into contact with all the content of this informational



and their storage. If the life of the physical body is finite and we talk about evolution, the experiences should be recorded and available to act unconsciously in the ongoing existence.

According to Gabriel Delanne, "memory is not simply an organic faculty, linked to brain's substance, but is, rather, in that indestructible part, which spiritists call perispirit." Therefore, the spirit that does not die with the physical body carries its experiences, which can become opportunities for growth, learning and evolution in this spiritual body, influencing their future reincarnation projects.

When we talk about integral memory, understandable from the spiritual concept, we refer to the ancestral experiences log file, not remembrance.

Memory is different from remembrance, since the latter requires awareness. Experiences with sleepwalkers through hypnosis show that you can redeem past records,

field.

In the book *The Astral City*, André Luiz, psychographed by Chico Xavier, we find a woman who can only get into contact with a small part of her past, after a lot of work of discipline and reflection and in such a way, that this information would not be a destabilizing factor for the balance achieved so far.

If today is our highest point of spiritual evolution, what were left behind are primitive experiences in which its remembrances would shock us because they are errors prior to our current stage of understanding.

We believe that is possible to access all the integral memory contents only when we reach the fullness of spiritual evolution, consciously integrating self-knowledge, self-forgiveness and, remembering Jesus, loving others as we love ourselves.

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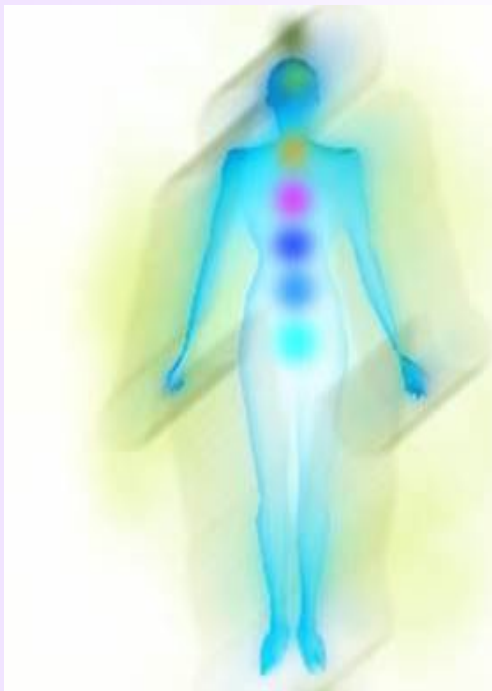
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Perispirit: Nature and Functions

Sonia Theodoro da Silva

Over the centuries tradition has attempted to define the existence of the body-involucres of the Spirit; Paul of Tarsus, in his 1st Epistle to the Corinthians was the closest one, with the resurrected spiritual body definition. Allan Kardec researched the matter with the rigor and insistence that characterized him and inquiring the Spirits, got the answer that the Spirit is covered with a vaporous substance, a semi-material involucres composed of subtle elements constitutive of the planet where it should inhabit. His studies led him to conclude that the perispirit, with dual polarization, records the evolution of the Spirit who, in its turn transforms the very substance in



which it is covered, and both interfere in a third, the physical body, through its nervous system. Recent researches denominated it the Biological Organizer Model (Andrade, H.G.) and Morphogenetic Model (Sheldrake, R.). By its indivisible, invisible, intangible, expansive, sensitive to magnetic action nature, it is responsible for stabilizing the organic complex, for the psychological aspect, to perform the functions of biological memory, and the perpetua-

tion of individuality.

In the process of reincarnation, the aspects of expandability of the perispirit stress, due to its molecular spaces being reduced, as well as its vibrational deceleration. Gabriel Delanne classifies this trend under *indestructibility and constitutional stability* (retaining the organic shapes).

The thoughts and actions of the incarnate or discarnate Spirit greatly influence the perispirit, thinning it or condensing it, resulting from these, fluidic combinations that interfere with its physiological constitution. The more elevated the intentions of the soul, the lighter and more subtle are the perispiritual vibrations and the possibility of assimilation of more purified fluids. The more dissonant the Spirit, its thoughts and actions, the greater the dystonia that may affect the delicate constitution of the perispirit, resulting in organic degeneration, habitat of viruses that, by its very nature, predispose the body to develop illnesses of all sorts (LUIZ, André).

Happiness, so pursued in our current days, will only be possible with the psychological balance generated by the disciplined thought, but above all by the overwhelming desire for Good in our lives. Model for all is Jesus, full of Peace and Love and thus transmitting it to all who wish to approach him.

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Mind, Perispirit and Mediumship

Manoel Portásio Filho

For the ancient Romans, the word mind involved several meanings, the main ones being: **the mind, the spirit** (as opposed to **corpus**), and in-



telligence. Therefore, in a direct sense, mind and spirit were synonymous. Spiritism corroborated this idea, showing that the mind is the spirit itself. Yvonne A. Pereira teaches that "... the mind - or the thought, the will, the psychic energy, the being's essence - creates, produces, builds, makes, maintains, administers, modifies, making use of the powerful forces that are natural to the being". (*Devassando o Invisível*, 7th Edition, FEB, Chapter V, pp. 113).

The Spirit is the being in action, the agent of all transformations and creations. Creation's intelligent being, acts through an intermediary: the spiritual body or perispirit, bond that unites the Spirit to the matter of the physical body. It is constituted of the cosmic fluid, of which it is the most important product, it is steamy, a quintessential matter and serves as a bridge between the being's inner world and the outside world.

Kardec, in *The Mediums' Book*, said that the perispirit "is the principle of all manifestations", especially with regards to mediumship which belongs to the field of spiritual communication. The mediumship manifestation takes place from mind to mind, from perispirit to perispirit, through the assimilation of the medium's perispiritual fluids by the communicator Spirit, establishing in this way, the necessary tuning.

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Spiritual Heredity

Ana Cecília Rosa

Heredity is a natural law according to which the **physical characteristics** of a population are transmitted to their descendants through reproduction (MENDEL, 1865). With the human genome codification advent, the "genetic heritage" was definitely responsible for the origin of several diseases and syndromes. However, with regards to **behavioral characteristics**, there is no evidence that genetic determinism may have the same expression. Spiritism recognizes, in the genesis of many physical and mental pathologies, the immortal being "spiritual heredity" subjected to the Law of cause and effect, which produces its mental and physical body seeking improvement through reincarnation.



According to André Luiz, in *Evolution in Two Worlds*, "the body naturally inherits the body in accordance to the mind's tendencies that fit in with other minds, in the circuits of affinity, therefore it is up to the responsible being to recognize that the relative but compulsory heredity will sculpture one's physical body needed in a particular incarnation, becoming impossible to change the service plan in which one was meritorious or responsible for, according to its acquisitions and needs". Thus, birth illnesses that often seem a sad burden to loving parents and innocent children are actually means of restoring the link between the various spiritual existences, weaving the divine quilt of justice, goodness and reparation, which creates opportunities to develop our capabilities to the maximum, thus tightening the spiritual ties of love.

The immortal Being is capable of taking the physical form suitable for a new incarnation, aiming to raise its moral level or redoing tasks that were left forgotten or with addictions in the past. The responsibility and repentance are essential motivating conditions for the choices that will be made, and will make the being release a large sum of efforts to lift itself up for the good. André Luiz, in the above mentioned book, claims that the Spirit "can, by its own conduct, happy or unhappy, accentuate or blurs the coloring of the programs that show it the route, (...) which will be ennobling or aggravating its own situation according to its choice of good or evil".

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