

One of the objectives of GI4QC Forum is resolving long-standing mysteries of science and nature and the forum believes that this can be achieved by introducing a 'new' element - Universal Consciousness or Quantum Consciousness - in the current scientific models / frameworks. This so-called 'new' element was recognized and accepted by sages thousands of years ago and forms the central theme of many ancient texts and philosophies.

Quantum Consciousness is also the current subject of research in the Western world and is in a unique position to address the age-old problem of downward vs upward causation and the category mistake of dualism.

While the Forum believes in the primacy of Universal Consciousness, it does not prefer any one philosophy over another and it is working towards its above-mentioned objective by demonstrating (using quantum mechanics principles as the basis for experiment) how science and these philosophies converge and display a deep congruence. However, there is one bottleneck - there are many terms used in these ancient texts which do not have an equivalent word in English Language.

Since we are interacting with the global audience, we have no choice but to use English Language words, however inadequate they might be. This, at times, leads to misinterpretation of the ideas being communicated, which, in turn, leads to unnecessary confusions. Hence there is a need to have consensus on a common framework that everyone aligns to.

Here is a list of some commonly used terms by GI4QC Forum, along with their intended meaning.

1. Universal Consciousness or Quantum Consciousness - *Brahman* (ब्रह्म or ब्रह्मन्) or *Purusha* (पुरुष)

It is the all-pervading underlying layer of reality, the non-material abstract energy field from which everything in this universe manifests but which itself remains absolute, unchanged and undiminished. It is the omnipresent field which pervades and illumines the body-mind system and is the *being* of all living entities. In fact, everything that exists, which includes all the sentient beings as well as the insentient material world, is a manifestation of the and from the Universal Consciousness.

2. (individual) Consciousness or Life-Force or Soul - *Atman* (आत्मन्)

It is the inner-self or the eternal-core of the personality of the living being which emanates from the Universal Consciousness, *Brahman*, that pervades this entire universe. *Atman*, just like *Brahman*, is infinite, indestructible, eternal, supreme, self-knowing and self-existing.

{Please note: the word “Consciousness” used in this context should not be confused with the state of being aware of one's own existence, sensations, thoughts, surroundings, etc.}

3. Identity – *Ahankaar* (अहंकार)

It is that which makes us experience the state of being conscious or aware of one's own existence, sensations, thoughts, surroundings, etc. We also refer to it as the first-person experience or 'I'ness. The individual consciousness operating through past life imprints (*vriddhis*) gives rise to identity (*ahankaar*).

4. Mind - *Manas* (मनस्)

Mind collectively refers to the thinking/feeling (*mann*), discriminating power (*buddhi*) and memory (*chitta*) aspect of our experiences.

5. Body – *Shareer* (शरीर)

The body refers to the material mortal body that eats, breathes and moves (acts). It includes the external and internal organs of sense and action as well as the various currents of vital energy flowing through it (*prana*).

6. Sentient Being - *Jiva / Jeeva* (जीव)

It is the body-mind entity with *ahankaar* i.e. individual consciousness operating through the past life imprints or *vruttis*

7. Universe - *Jagat* (जगत) or *Prakriti* (प्रकृति)

It denotes the insentient material world. It includes all the cognitive, moral, psychological, emotional, sensorial and physical aspects of reality.

8. World (endless cycle of birth, death, and rebirth) – *Sansaara / Samsaara-* (संसार)

It signifies the concept of rebirth to which life in the material world is bound. In simplistic terms, it means identifying with the body-mind system and believing that the mortality and suffering of the body and mind belongs to you. This feeling that you are limited and somehow lacking something is a painful cycle that continues over multiple lifetimes until you realize that instead of being the limited body-mind, you are the limitless *brahman*.

9. Unreal or Illusion - *Mithya* (मिथ्या)

It means something that we may experience but still it cannot exist on its own but depends on something else for its existence and is constantly changing. Some interpret it as an illusion while others say that it means transient or temporary.

10. Real – *Satya* (सत्य)

It is something that does not change with time, is ever present and is not restricted by an object.

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