I-19.   Tools for Representation

A tool extends or substitutes for the motions of the sources of power. For such motives we rely on tools of language to elaborate meaning of observation for exploration. If being human is about ability to use tools for viable constructs, the other side of the coin is the quality of resulting perceptions for the practice-based conduct (behaviors) that articulates and integrates thoughts, words and actions.

Jeevatthan introduces terms and relationships to represent and assign entity-hood to animate beings.   It is a useful strategy wherever one has to know what one is talking about.   It facilitates transaction (discourse) of knowledge as in learning, teaching, research or decision-making.

Insights on Representation

- As a basis for knowledge and theory the logic of reality binds all explorations of represented reality. Verified properties of an entity are analyzed in terms of defined criteria. Representation (*satprarupana*) has three roots: *sat* refers to *astitv* or *asti* for exists, *pra-* for in relation to the evidence, and *rupana* for presentation in a form. Near equivalent of *sat* is *satv* (Sanskrit; not *saty*) or tangible (English).

- Appeal to the parts is not on finding order among the parts but on finding the order (quality) that distinguishes the part.

- An entity is represented by a name. It is conceptually identified as a class and category in relation to classes of other entities, and also to distinguish it from the rest of the world.

- Depending on the purpose, a representation can be more

majestic than the reality. The purpose of representation is to peel off the "unwanted" layers to define a manageable sliver of reality. Examples include equations, theories, art, photo, fiction, advertisements, public relation pronouncements, conceptions of aliens and gods.

- The goal and essential quality of representation of reality is not "truth." From "Let there be X" does not necessarily lead to "there is X." In Richard Avodon's words "There is no such thing as inaccuracy. All photographs are accurate. None of them is truth."

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