

retention, or feeling, willing and memory. These primary characteristics change but do not disappear altogether.

From these it would appear that what can be cognised in some form or another is called a characteristic. Of the cognisable properties that which is directly known is called the emergent or present, what was cognised before is quiescent or past, and which is considered fit to be known later is called unmanifested or future.

What is present is known directly, and what are past and future are conjectured as they are not manifest. The past and the future characteristics of an object may be innumerable because there is a fundamental unity of all objects; hence all objects might change into anything else.

This is the outlook of the Sāmkhya philosophy and its basic method of analysis. In its view causes are divisible into two-efficient and material. The changed condition of an object through a cause is the effect.

(2) Manifestation of a thing is dependent on space, time, shape and cause. Everything can be made of everything but that does not mean that it can so happen without any cause. Examples of dependence on space are—a thing very close to the eye cannot be seen properly, but it can be seen at a comparatively distant place; things are thought of as small or large on account of location at a distance or otherwise; of dependence on time, the examples are—a child does not get old at once, but gradually, two ideas do not occur at the same time but one after another; of dependence on shape, instances are—a square die cannot give a round impression, a man is not born of a deer. Efficient cause is the real cause. Space, time etc. are only practical variations of the efficient cause. Every cause, other than the material, is the efficient cause. With appropriate efficient cause, unmanifested characteristics become manifest.

The commentator has explained here that the thing which we use as the aggregate of particular, or visible or emergent characteristic, and conjecturable, i.e. general (not particular) or past and future characteristics, is the substratum.

When we see a characteristic we must understand that there is behind it a basic substratum which is an aggregate of all