

Reality seems to fan out as the spectrum of the multiple universe.

The principle of *Maya* functioning in the individual is termed ignorance (*Avidya*). This subjective malady, which provides in its wake, the dreamy hallucinations of a sorrowful world of change and imperfections, has been very closely observed, and the *Rishis* of old have declared that it is caused by three types of "moods" in man's inner personality. These three temperaments (*gunas*), called *Sattwa*, *Rajas* and *Tamas*, provide a prism, viewed through which, the kaleidoscopic world seems to dance, flashing its infinite patterns. *Rajas* creates 'mental-agitations' (*Vikshepa*), and *Tamas* creates the "intellectual-veiling" (*Avarana*).

To him who becomes confused and confounded by the play of these triple temperaments, the Self is not available for direct experience. Special instructions from teachers and diligent practice on the part of students are both necessary in order to make one realise one's own Real Nature. To an ignorant man of the jungle, electricity is unmanifest in the bulb and in its incandescent filament. In order to perceive the electrical current that flows through the equipment, theoretical knowledge and experimental confirmation are essential. After having gained the knowledge of the electrical energy and its properties, when the student happens to see the very same bulb, he comes to cognise through the perceived bulb the imperceptible, the unmanifest electrical energy!